

MARVEL 003

HOUSER
SILVA
WONG
ROSENBERG

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT



MAXIMUM RIDE DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER PAST.

SHE KNOWS ABOUT THE **LAB** WHERE SHE WAS GIVEN WINGS AND THE ABILITY TO FLY. SHE KNOWS ABOUT **JEB**, THE MAN WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPERIMENTING ON HER. SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS TO PROTECT THE REST OF **THE FLOCK** -- FANG, NUDGE, IGGY, GASMAN, AND ANGEL -- AT ALL COSTS.

AND SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS ONE MISSION: TO SAVE THE WORLD.

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT

ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL, *MAXIMUM RIDE: SCHOOL'S OUT FOREVER*, BY JAMES PATTERSON



FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, **MAXIMUM RIDE** AND THE REST OF **THE FLOCK** ARE GETTING A CHANCE AT A NORMAL LIFE: SCHOOL, FILLING MEALS, AND A SAFE PLACE TO STAY WITH AN FBI AGENT, **ANNE**.

YET, THINGS SEEM ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. PLAGUED WITH WORRY, MAX HAS TAKEN EVERY PRECAUTION POSSIBLE TO PROTECT HER FAMILY FROM **ARI** AND THE **ERASERS**, DETERMINED TO NOT LET ANYONE HARM THE ONES SHE LOVES MOST, OR WORSE, BRING THEM BACK TO THE LAB.

MEANWHILE, THE NEVER-ENDING SEARCH FOR THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES CONTINUES, WITH **IGGY'S** PARENTS FINALLY BEING FOUND!

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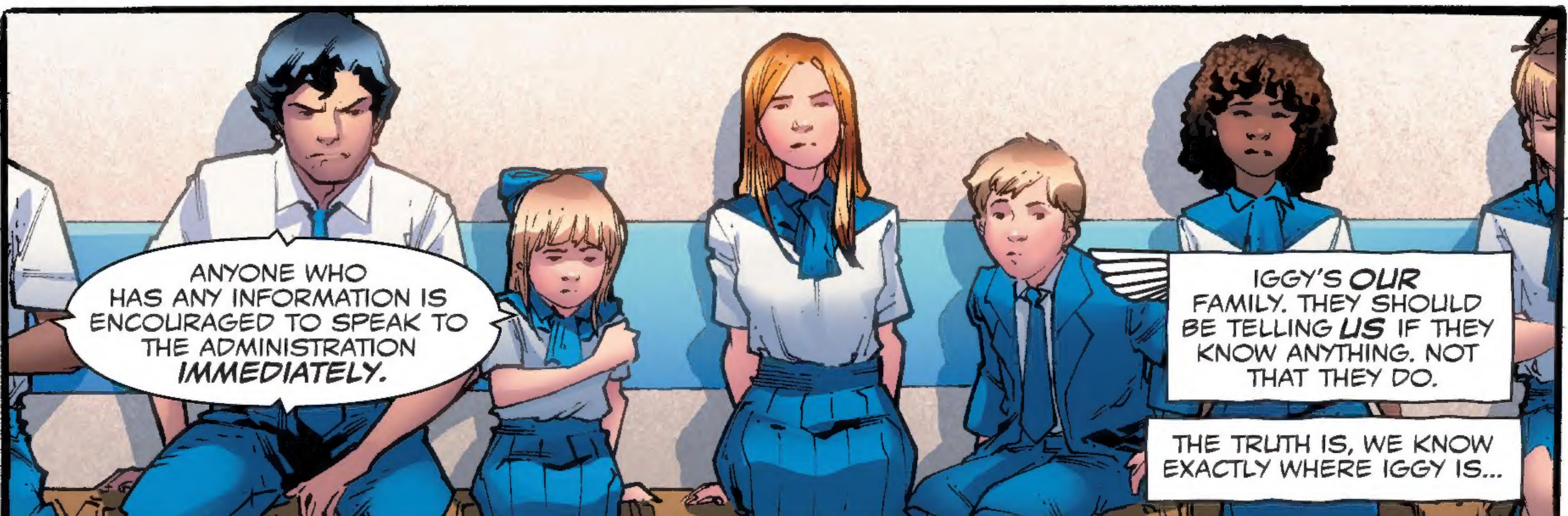
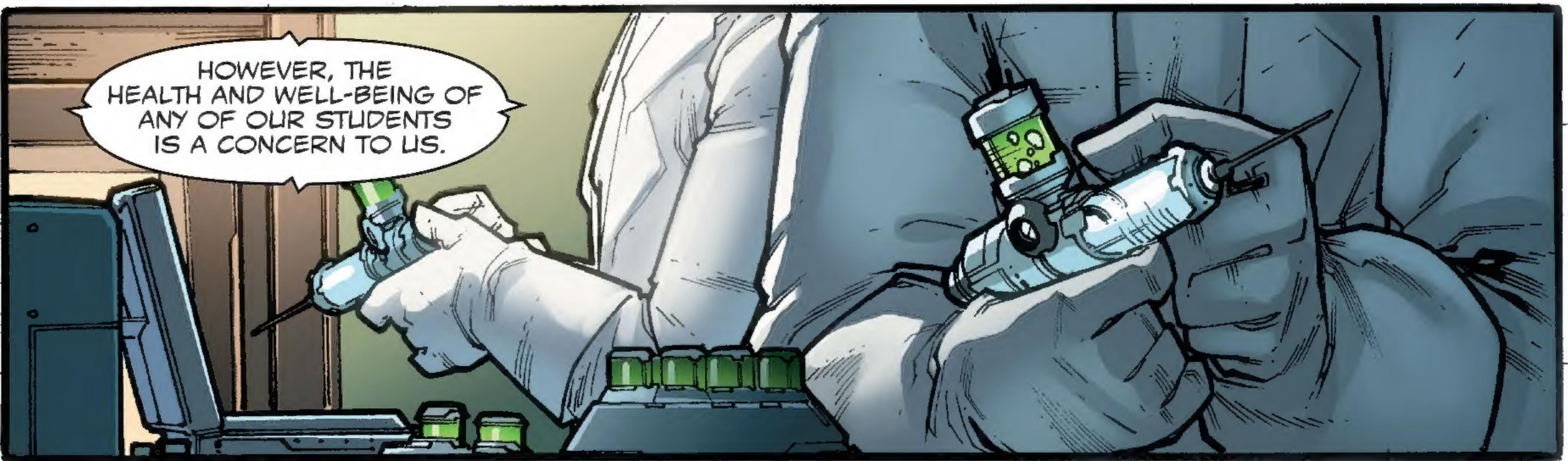
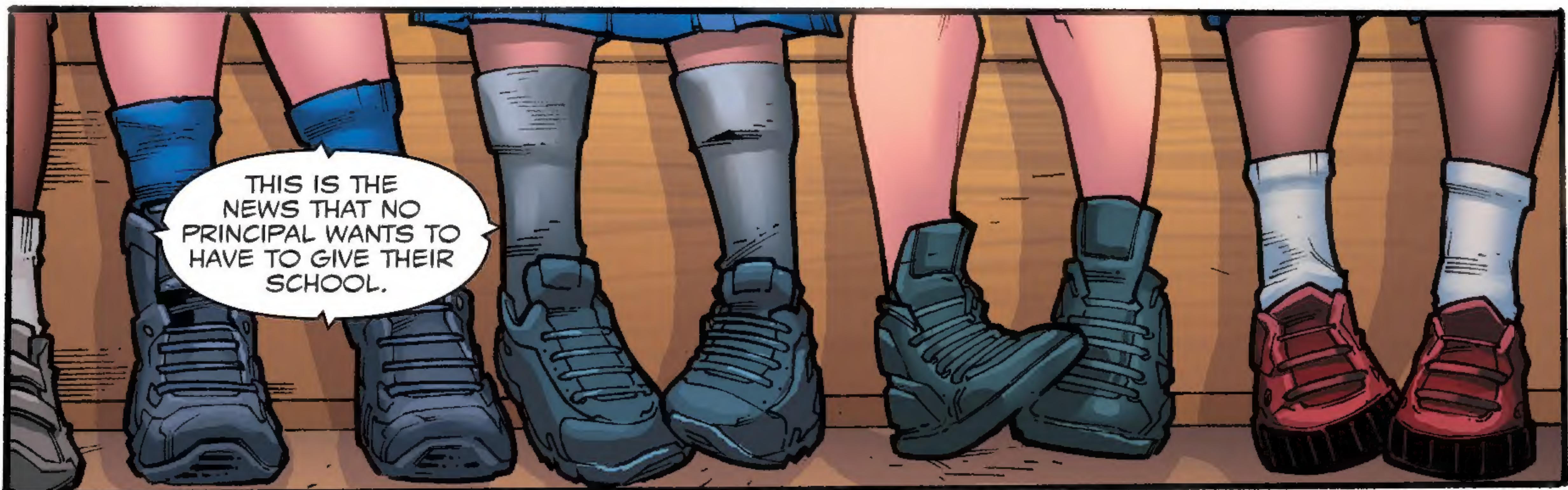
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...RIGHT WHERE WE LEFT HIM: WITH HIS BIRTH PARENTS.

THAT'S WHERE... WHERE JAMES HAD HIS BIRTHMARK...

IT LOOKS LIKE...

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

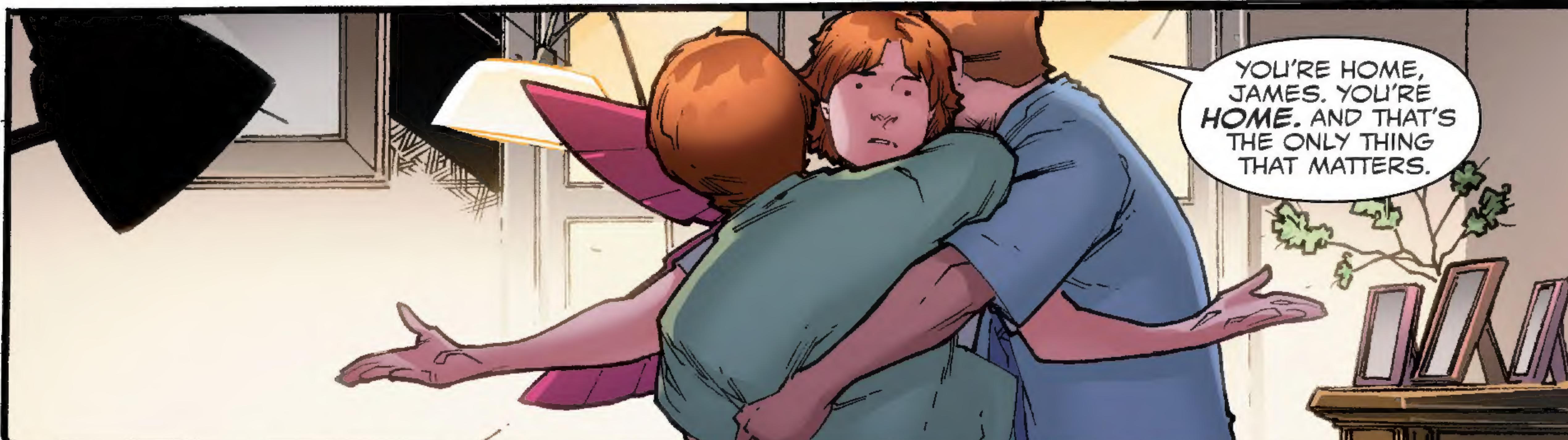
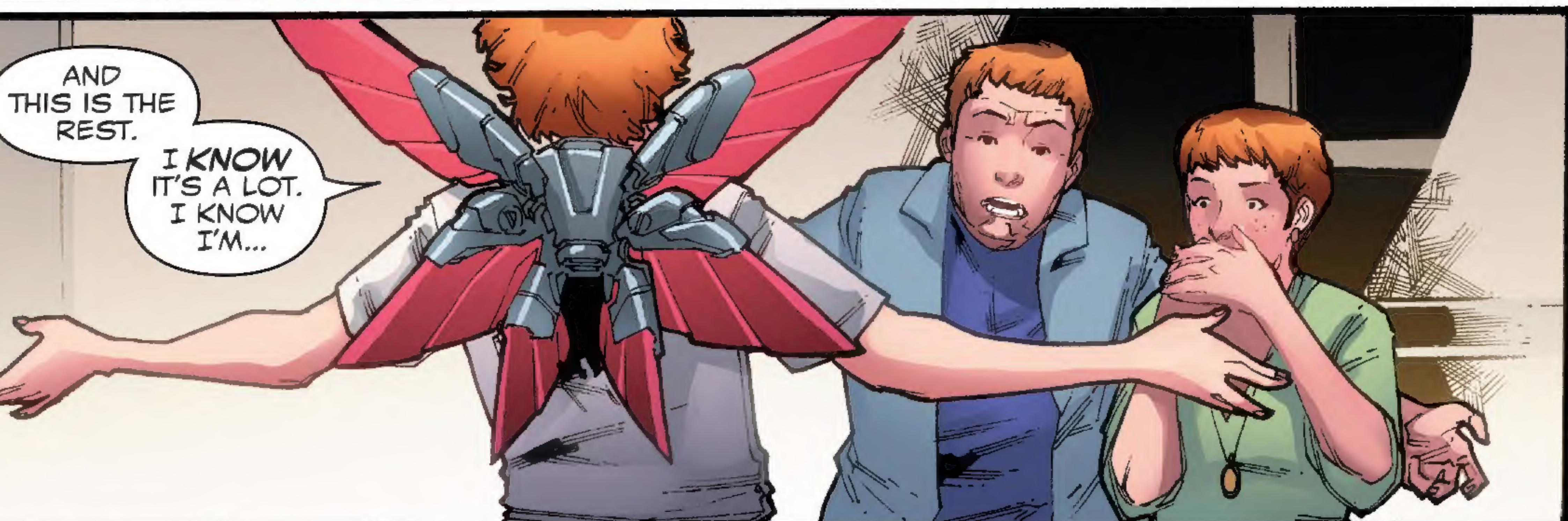
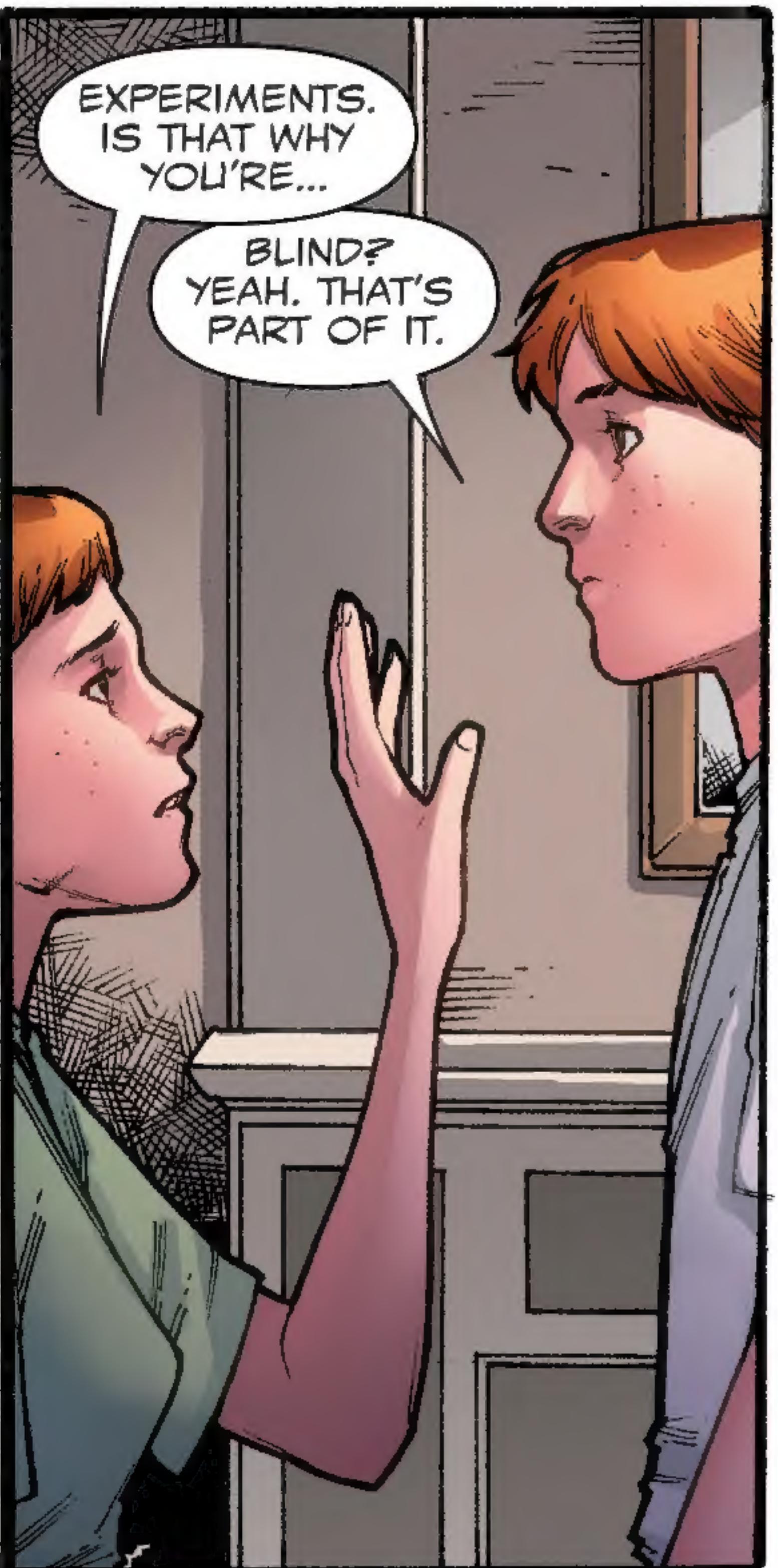
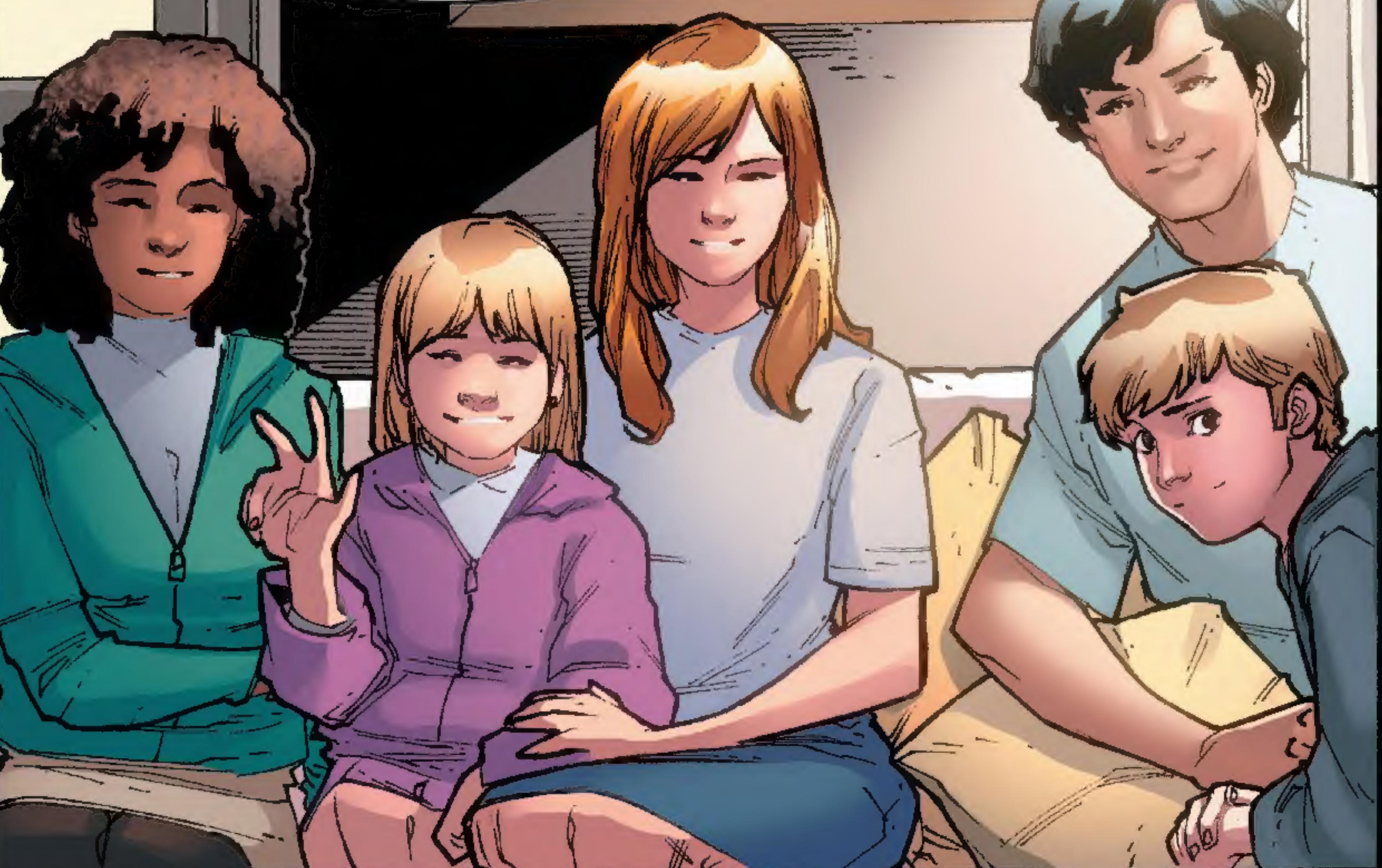
EARLIER. DUPONT CIRCLE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

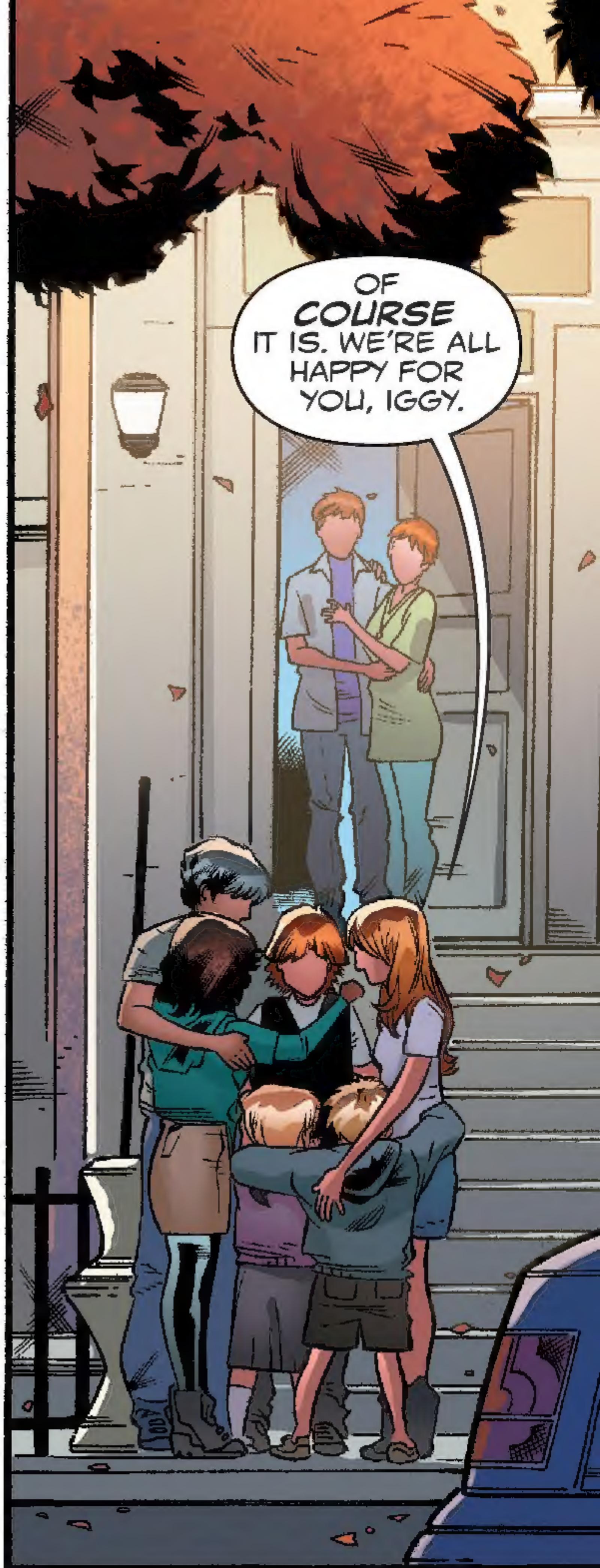
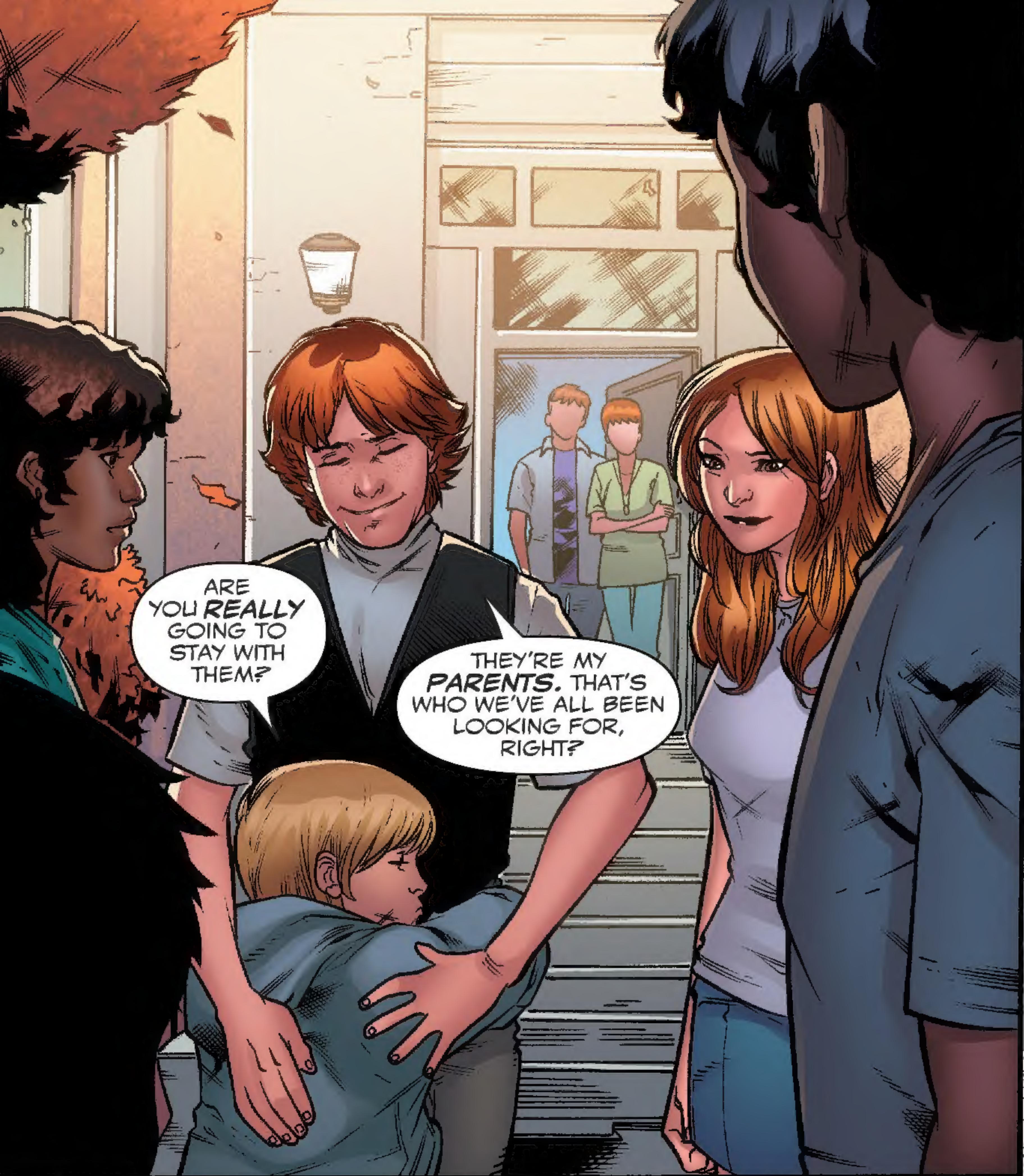
THERE WAS A LAB. THEY DID EXPERIMENTS ON ALL OF US. WE ESCAPED TOGETHER. TOOK CARE OF EACH OTHER.

THIS IS MAX, ANGEL, GAZZY, NUDGE, AND FANG. THEY'VE BEEN MY FAMILY.

EXPERIMENTS. IS THAT WHY YOU'RE...

BLIND? YEAH. THAT'S PART OF IT.





LYING TO ANNE WAS THE HARDEST PART. SHE'S TRIED SO HARD TO TAKE CARE OF US.

AND NONE OF YOU SAW HIM LEAVE? NO IDEA WHERE HE MIGHT HAVE GONE?

NO, HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO US.

THE OTHERS DON'T KNOW, BUT SHE TOLD ME BEFORE THANKSGIVING THAT SHE WANTED TO ADOPT US. MAKE US ALL A REAL FAMILY.

DO YOU THINK MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T BE EATING BIRDS? IS IT SOME KIND OF SEMI-CANNIBALISM?

THE ONLY PERSON WHO EVER TRIED TO MAKE US INTO A FAMILY WAS JEB.

AND THE WHOLE TIME HE WAS JUST ANOTHER SCIENTIST GETTING HIS KICKS TOYING WITH OUR HEADS.

THAT'S... NOT THE MATTER AT HAND NOW, NUDGE.
I KNOW IGGY THINKS HE'S SELF-RELIANT, BUT FOR ALL HIS POWERS, HE IS STILL BLIND.

DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT PLANNING TO TELL ANYONE YOUR SECRET.

BUT IT'S TIME TO GET THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES INVOLVED.

MAYBE THIS TIME IT COULD HAVE REALLY WORKED.

BUT I PROMISED THE KIDS WE'D FIND THEIR BIRTH PARENTS. AND FEELING SORRY FOR SOME FBI AGENT WE'VE ONLY KNOWN A COUPLE MONTHS DOESN'T CHANGE THAT.

HELLO, I'D LIKE TO REPORT A MISSING MINOR...

NOW.

FIRST THE COPS. THEN A SCHOOL-WIDE ASSEMBLY. SO MUCH ATTENTION.

I DIDN'T PLAN FOR THIS. WE'VE NEVER BEEN IN A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WOULD MISS US.

MAX. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TRY TO BE A PART OF THE REGULAR WORLD. THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES.

I DON'T REALLY NEED A CONVERSATION WITH THE MYSTERIOUS VOICE IN MY HEAD RIGHT NOW, THANKS.

YOU WANT THE OTHERS TO FIND THEIR TRUE HOMES. BUT YOU'RE SURPRISED WHEN THEY PLANT ROOTS? MAKE FRIENDS?

THEY KNEW THIS WAS TEMPORARY. AND NOW, PEOPLE CARE. THEY'RE ACTUALLY WORRIED FOR US.

AND THAT MAKES THINGS SO MUCH MESSIER, DOESN'T IT?

I'M SO SORRY, MAX. ARE YOU OKAY?

I JUST...I NEVER KNEW IT WAS AN OPTION.

I'M...IT'S HARD.

MAX, THE PRINCIPAL WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU IN HIS OFFICE. RIGHT NOW.

HE DOESN'T KNOW I'M STRONGER THAN HIM. I COULD BREAK FREE AND BREAK HIS FINGERS IF I WANTED.

MAX?

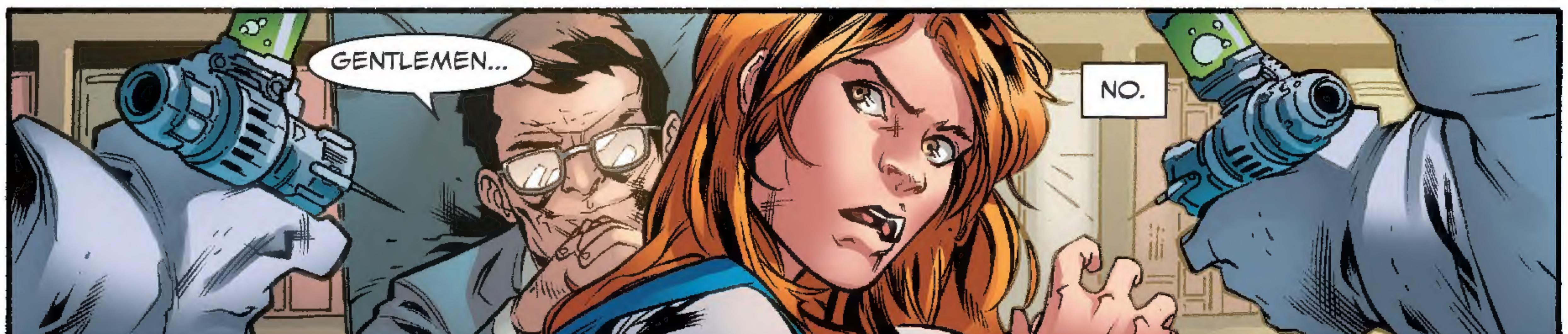
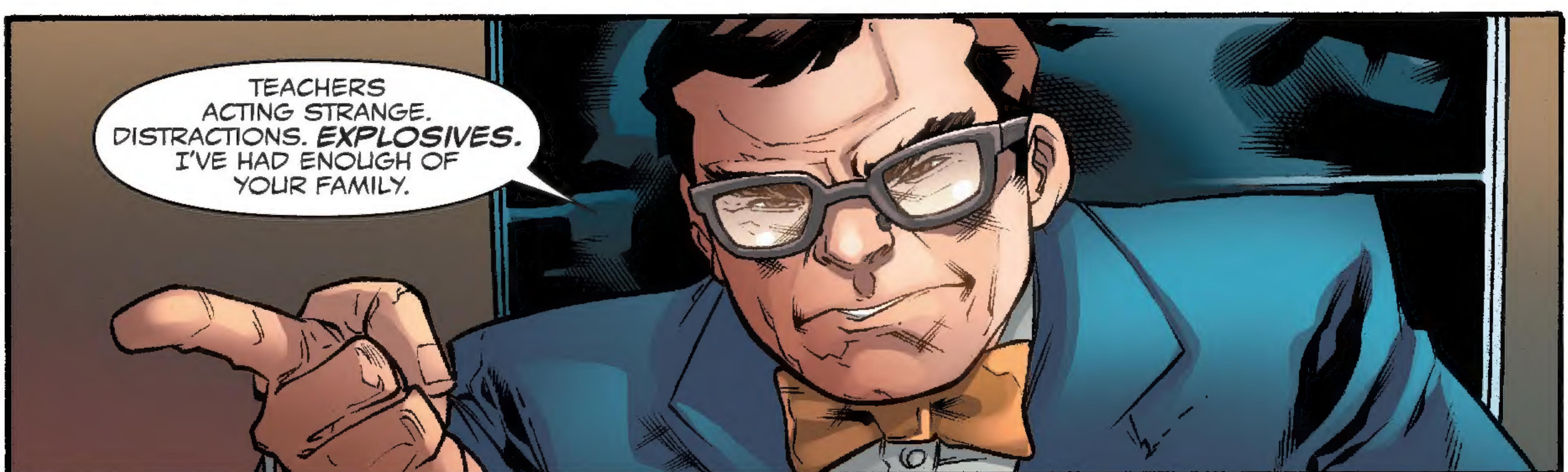
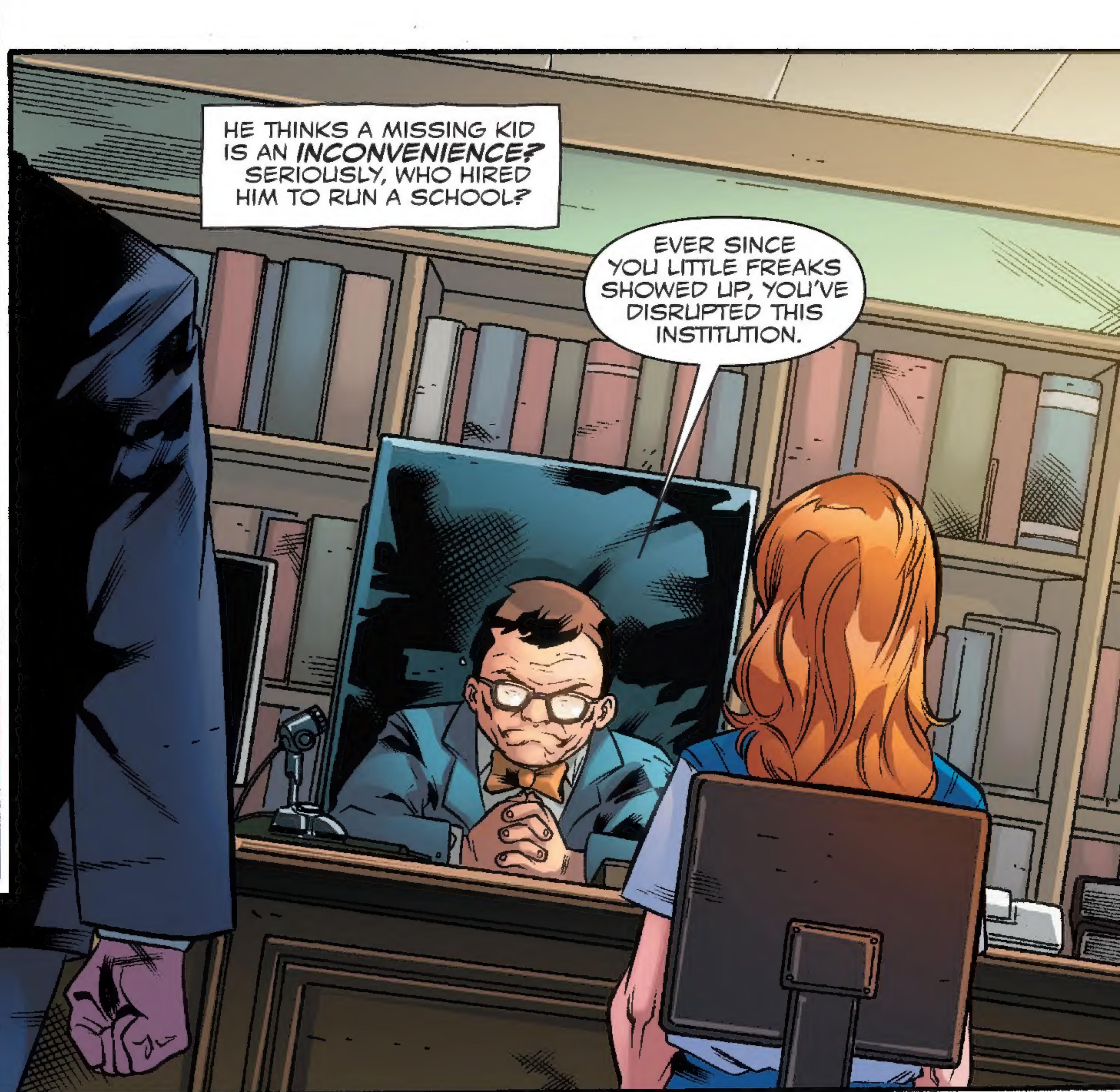
HIS GRIP IS A LOT TIGHTER THAN IT NEEDS TO BE. IT'S LIKE HE WANTS THIS TO HURT.

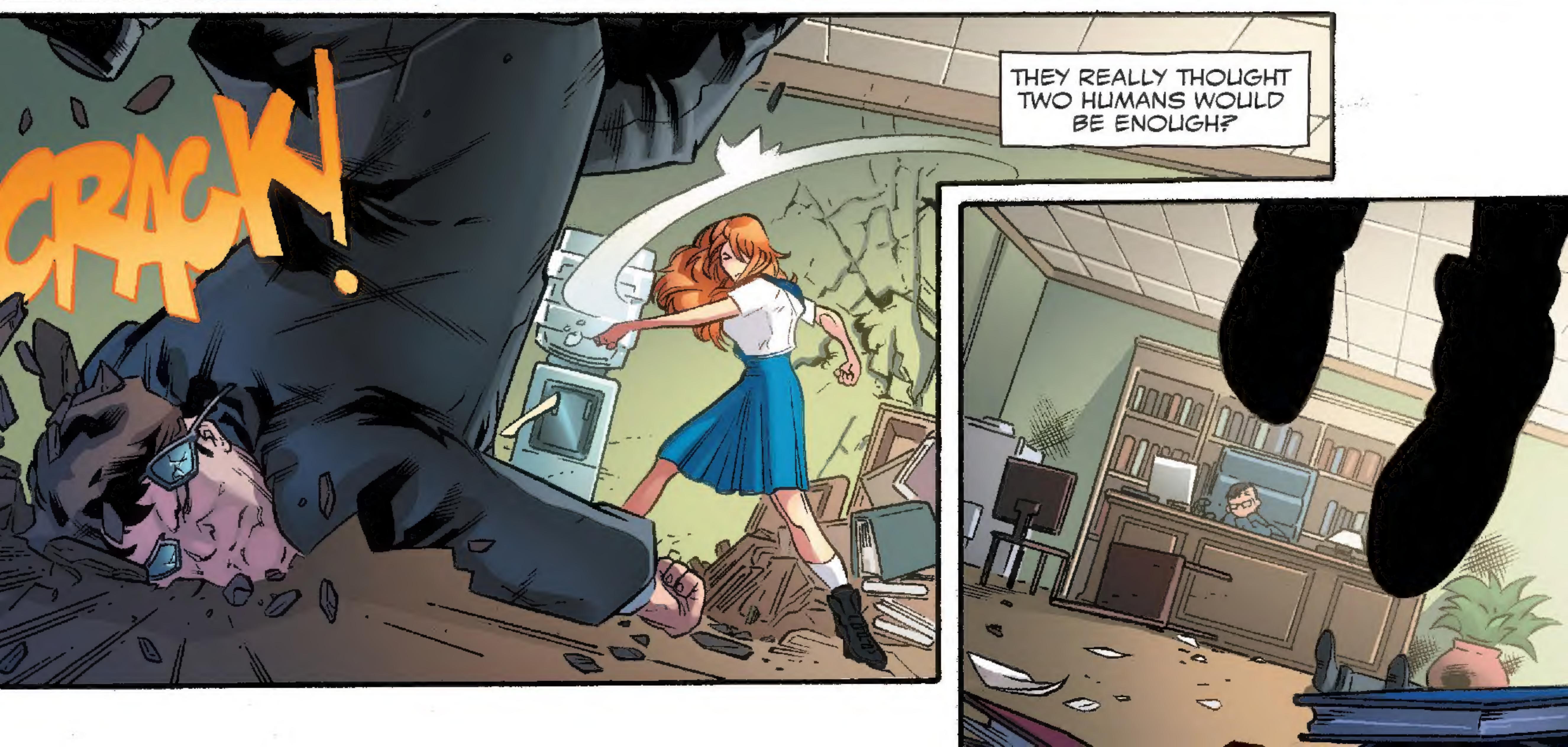
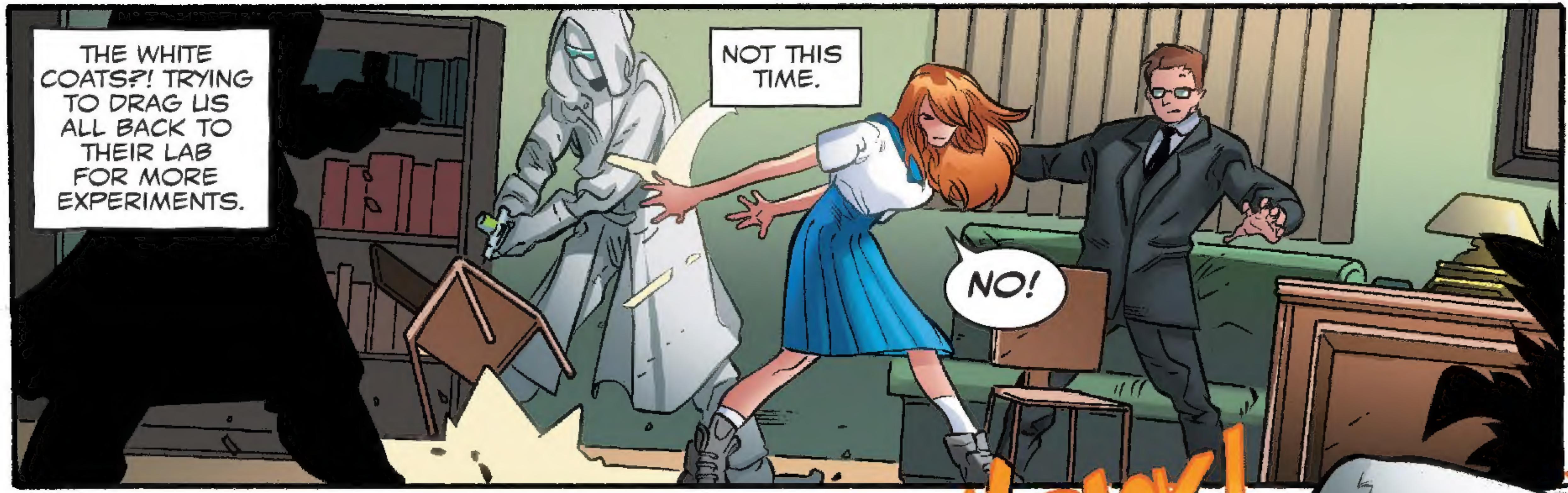
BUT I DON'T WANT TO BLOW OUR COVER HERE WITHOUT GOOD REASON. LET'S SEE WHAT THE PRINCIPAL HAS TO SAY.

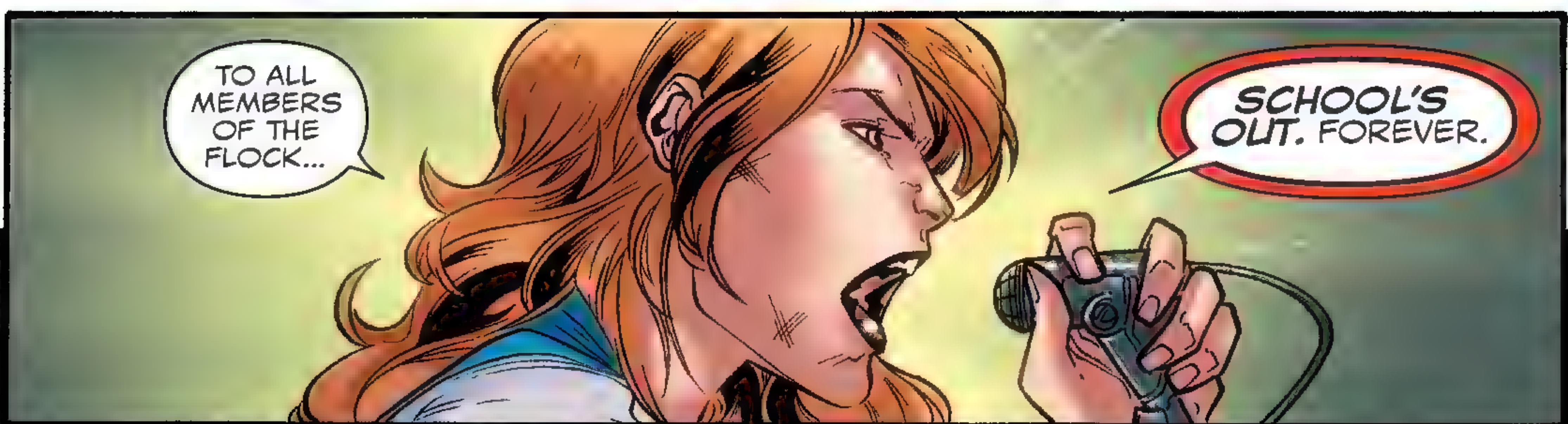
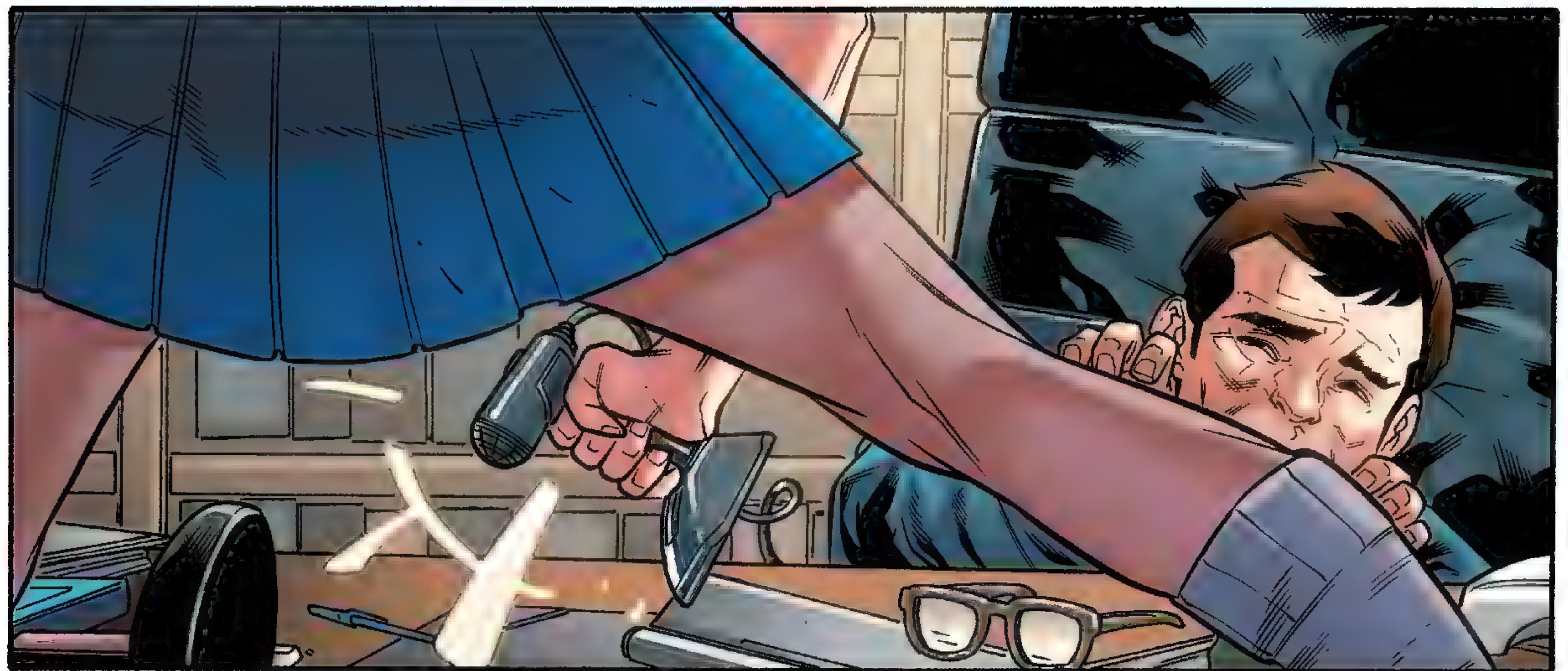
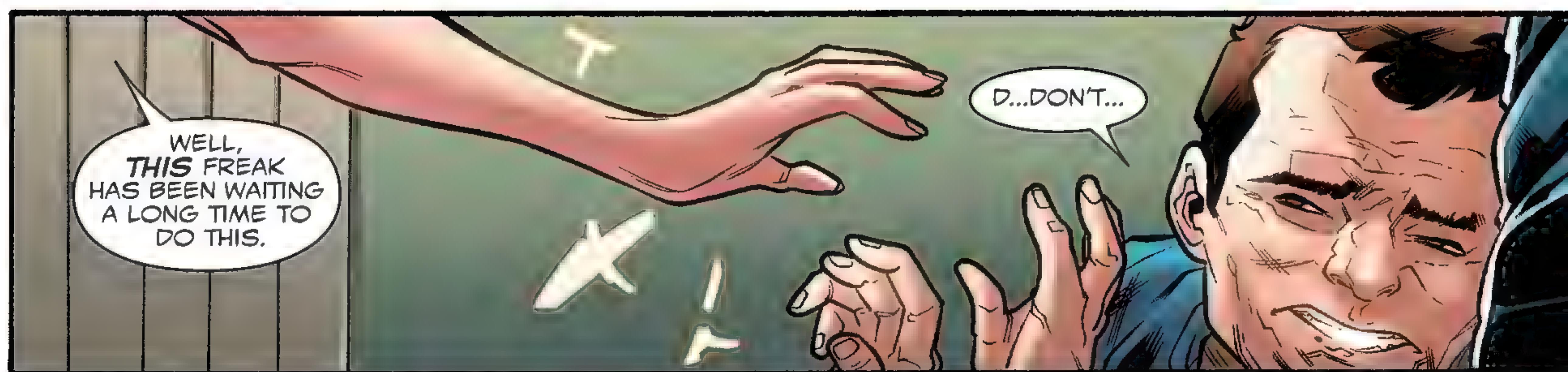
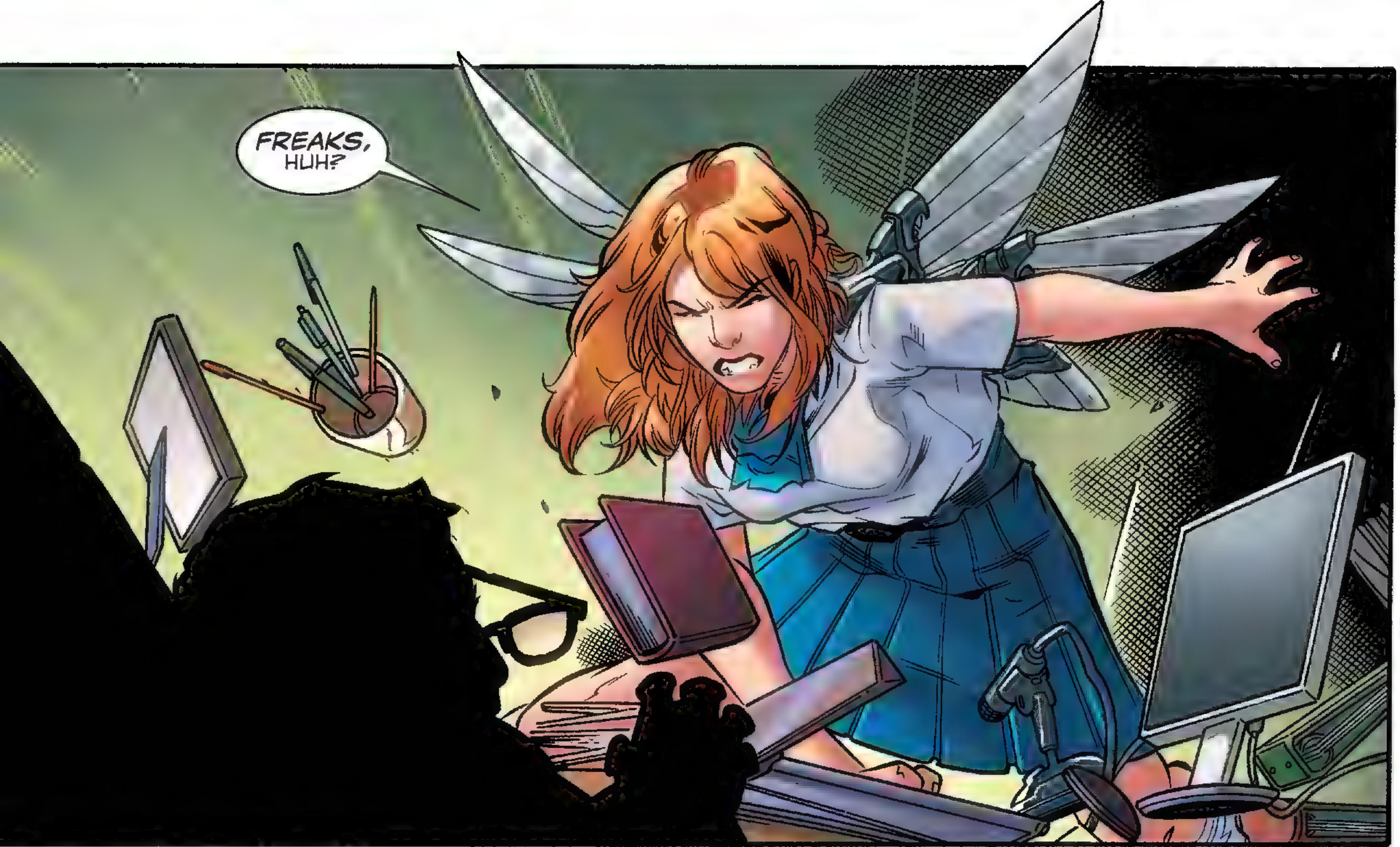
IT'S FINE. I'LL CATCH YOU LATER, OKAY?

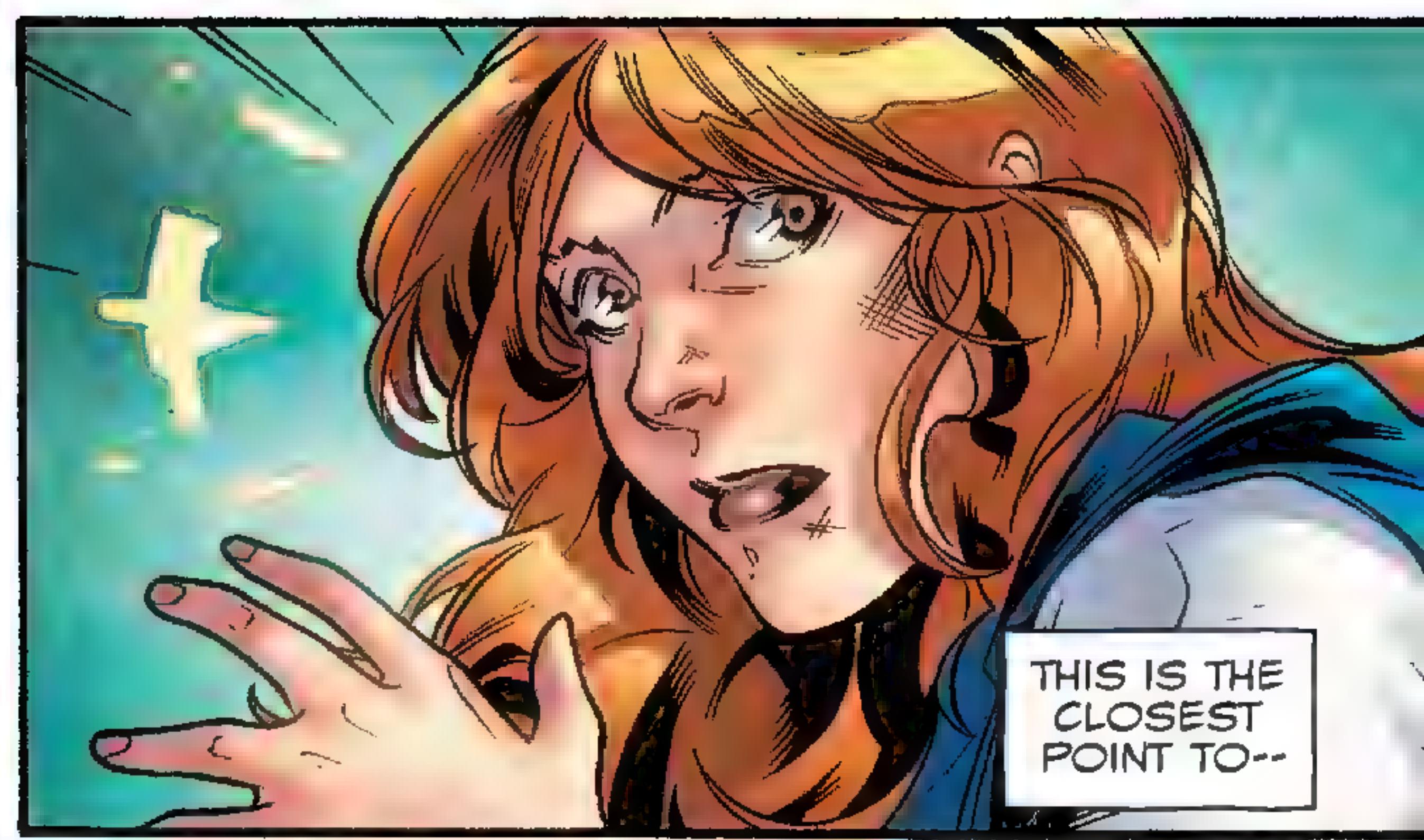
SURE.

I KNOW THE WAY.

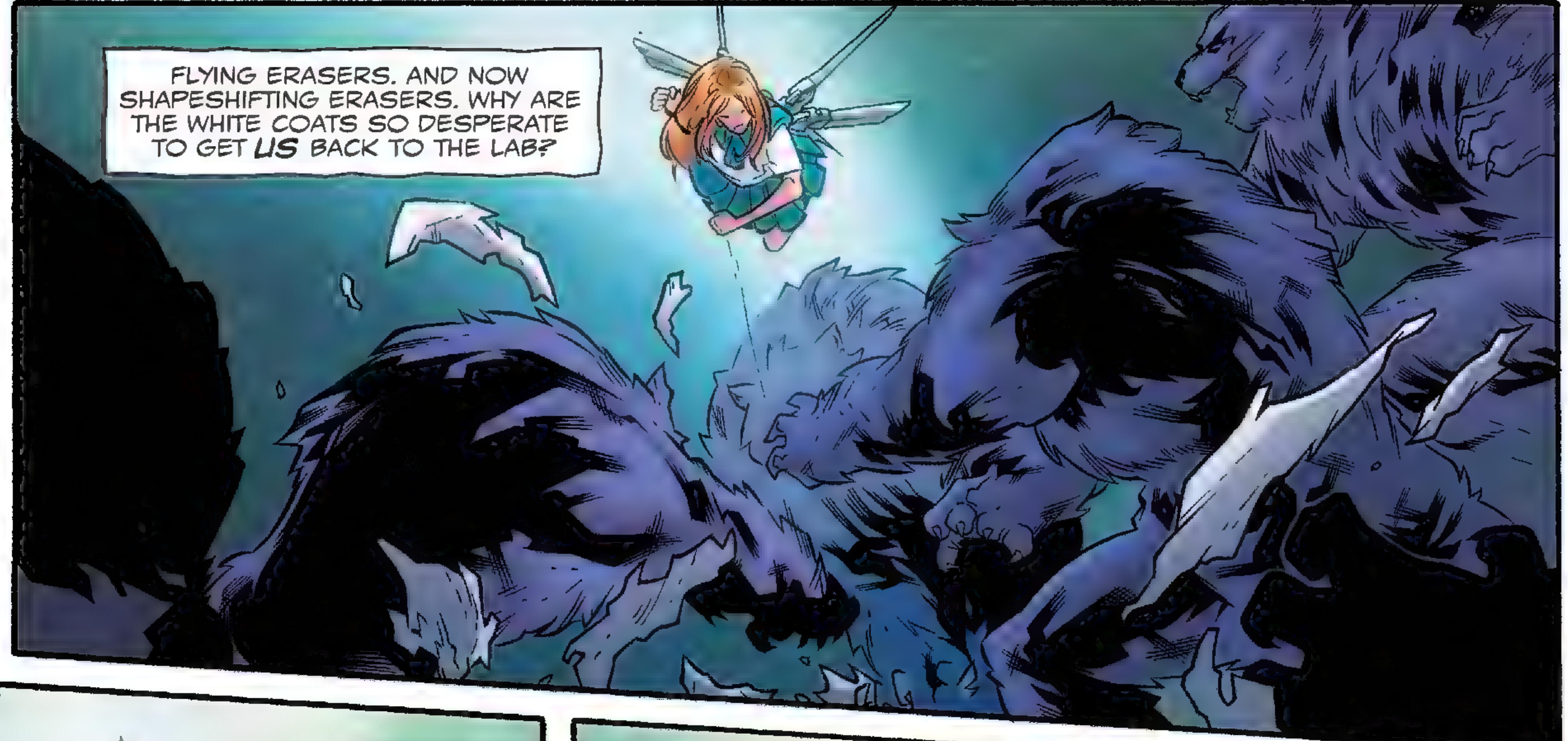








FLYING ERASERS. AND NOW SHAPESHIFTING ERASERS. WHY ARE THE WHITE COATS SO DESPERATE TO GET US BACK TO THE LAB?



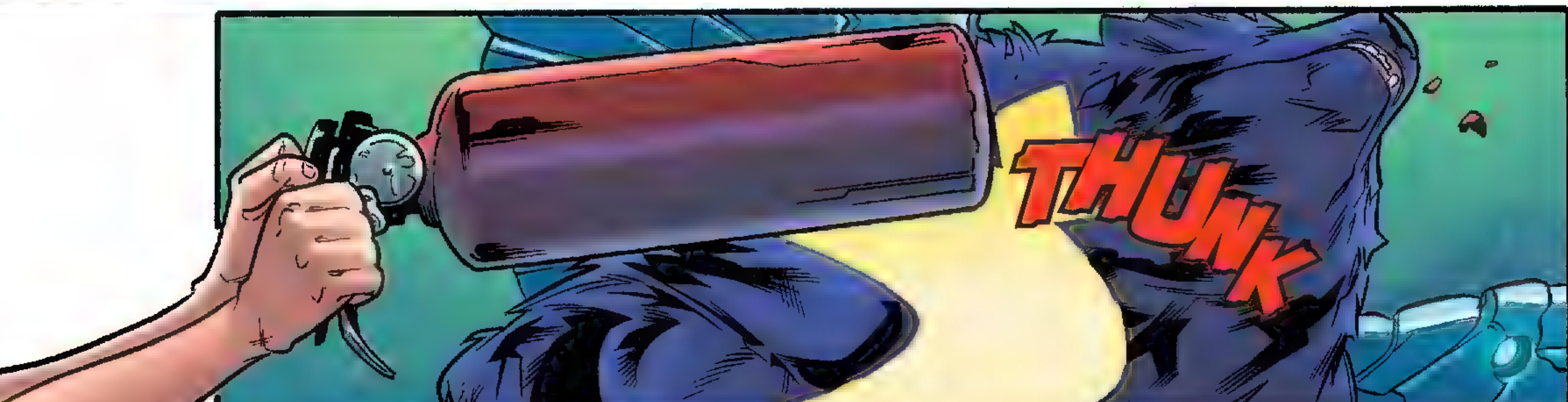
RIGHT. BECAUSE THEY'RE IN THE BUSINESS OF LIVING WEAPONS. AND THESE GUYS ARE STILL PRETTY WORTHLESS.

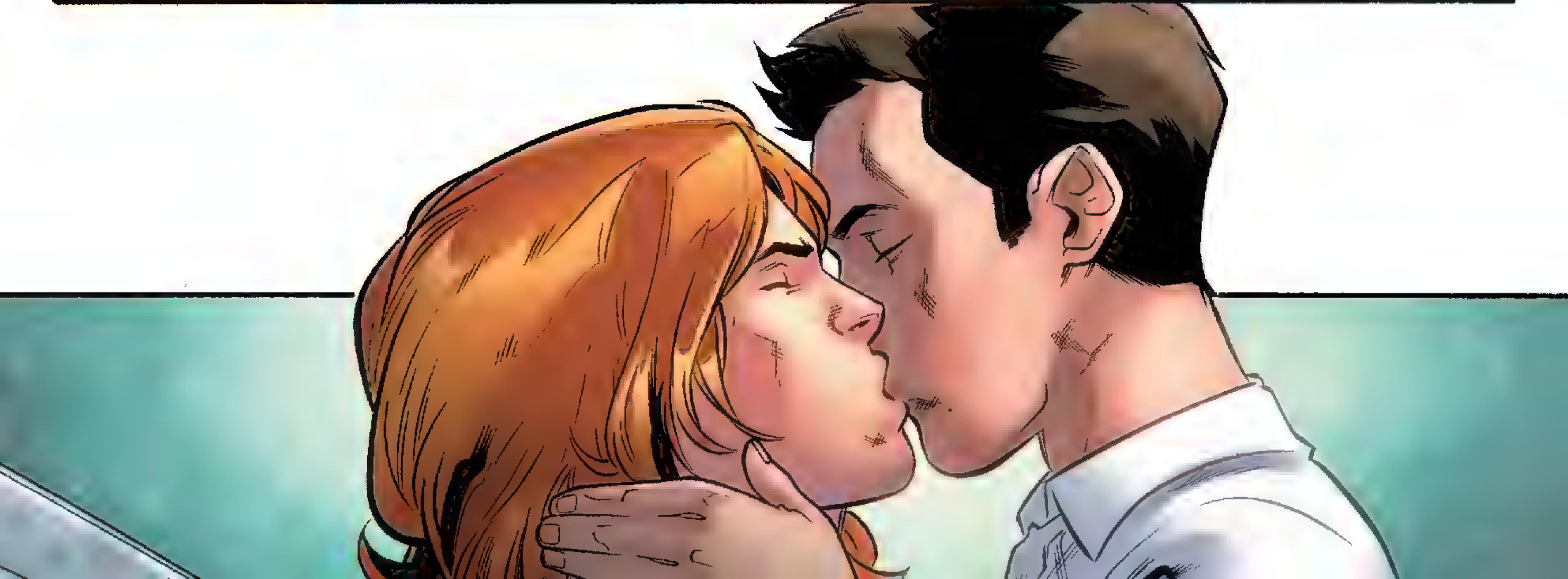
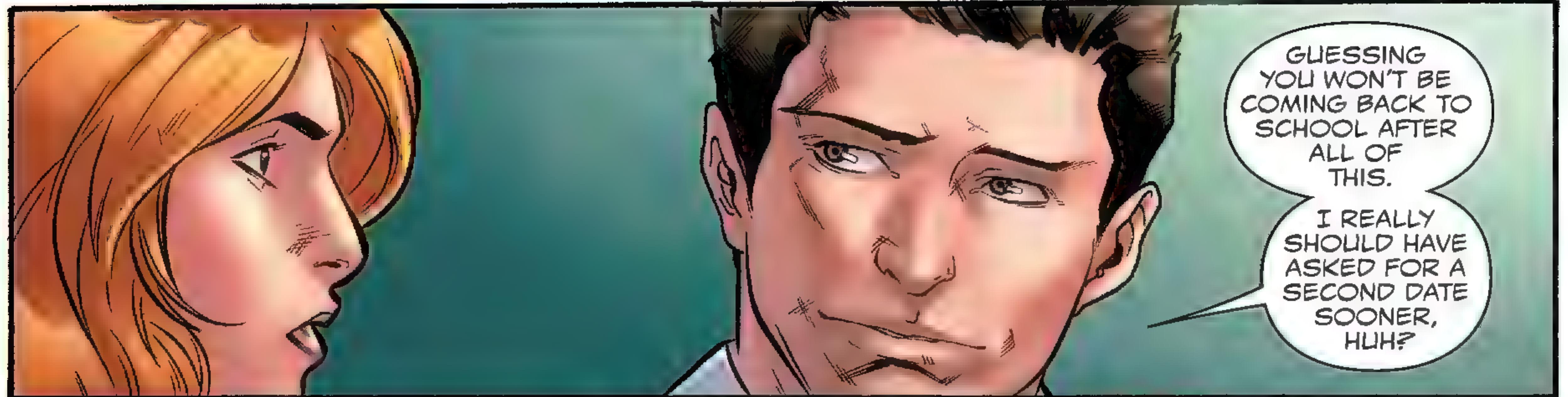
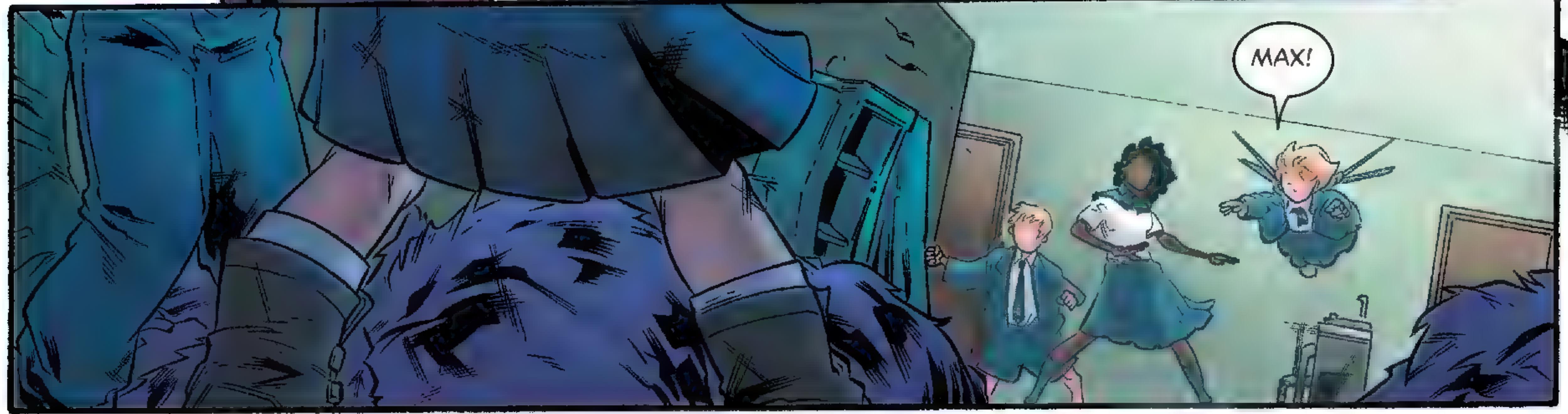
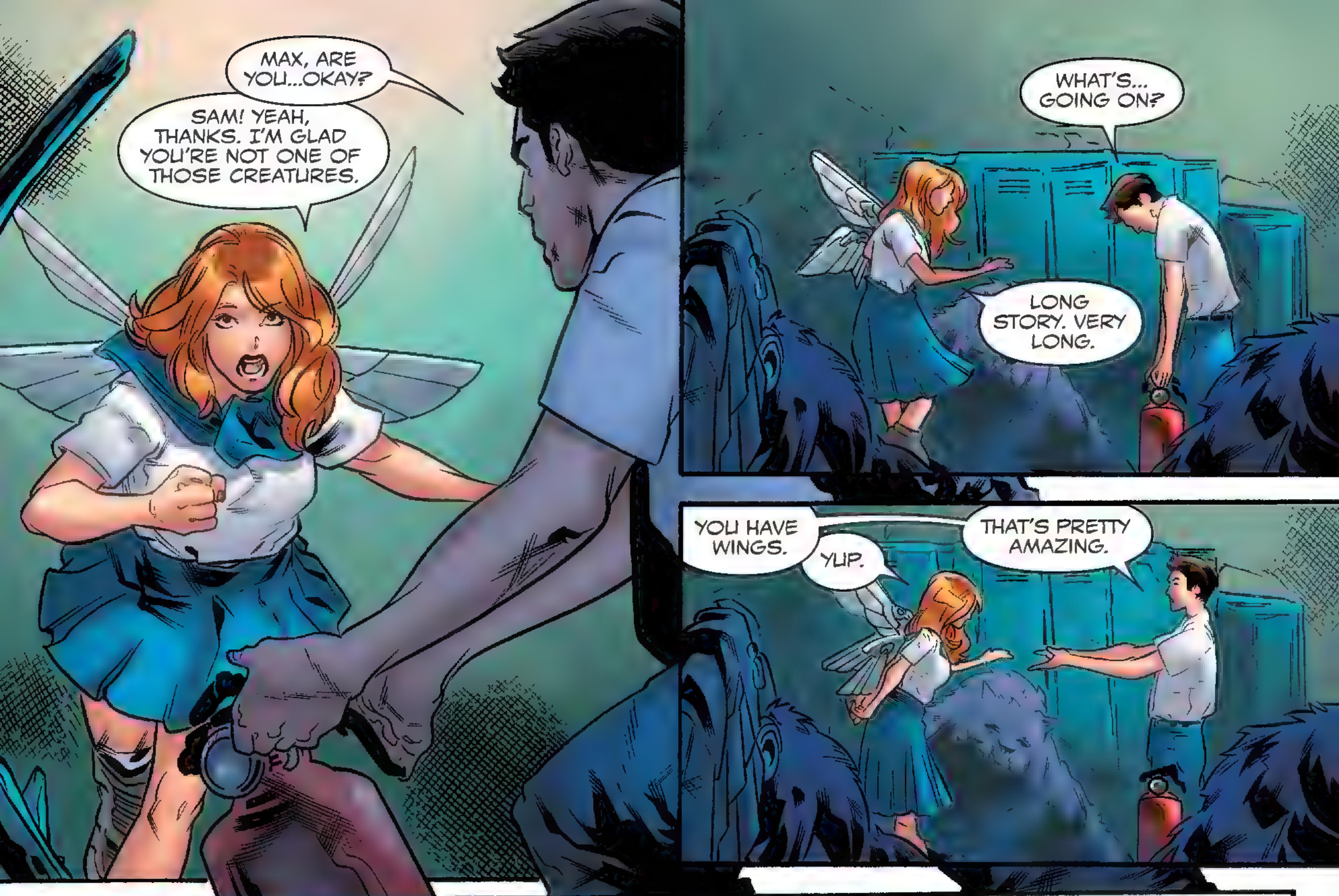
STRONG AND SCARY DOESN'T MAKE UP FOR SLOW AND CLUMSY.

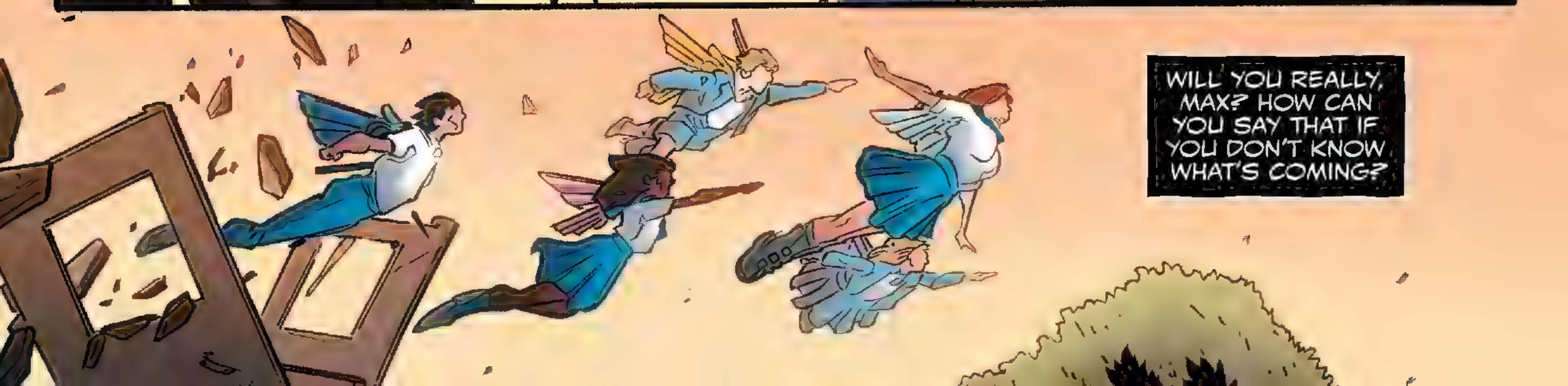
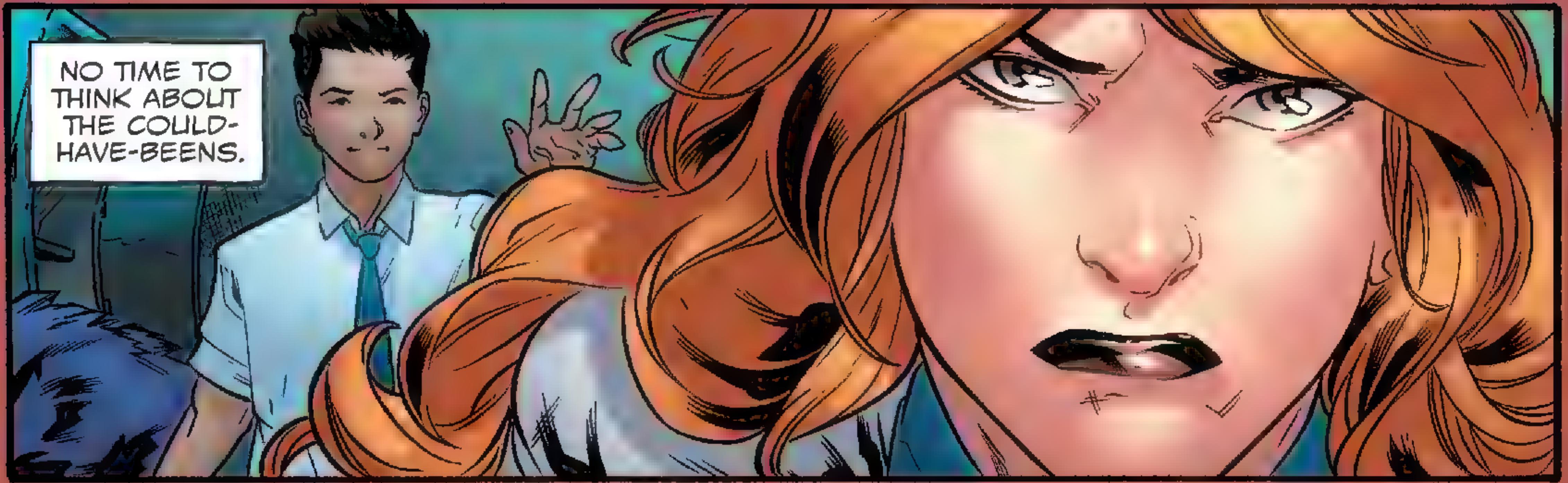
NOT WHEN WE'RE STRONG TOO.



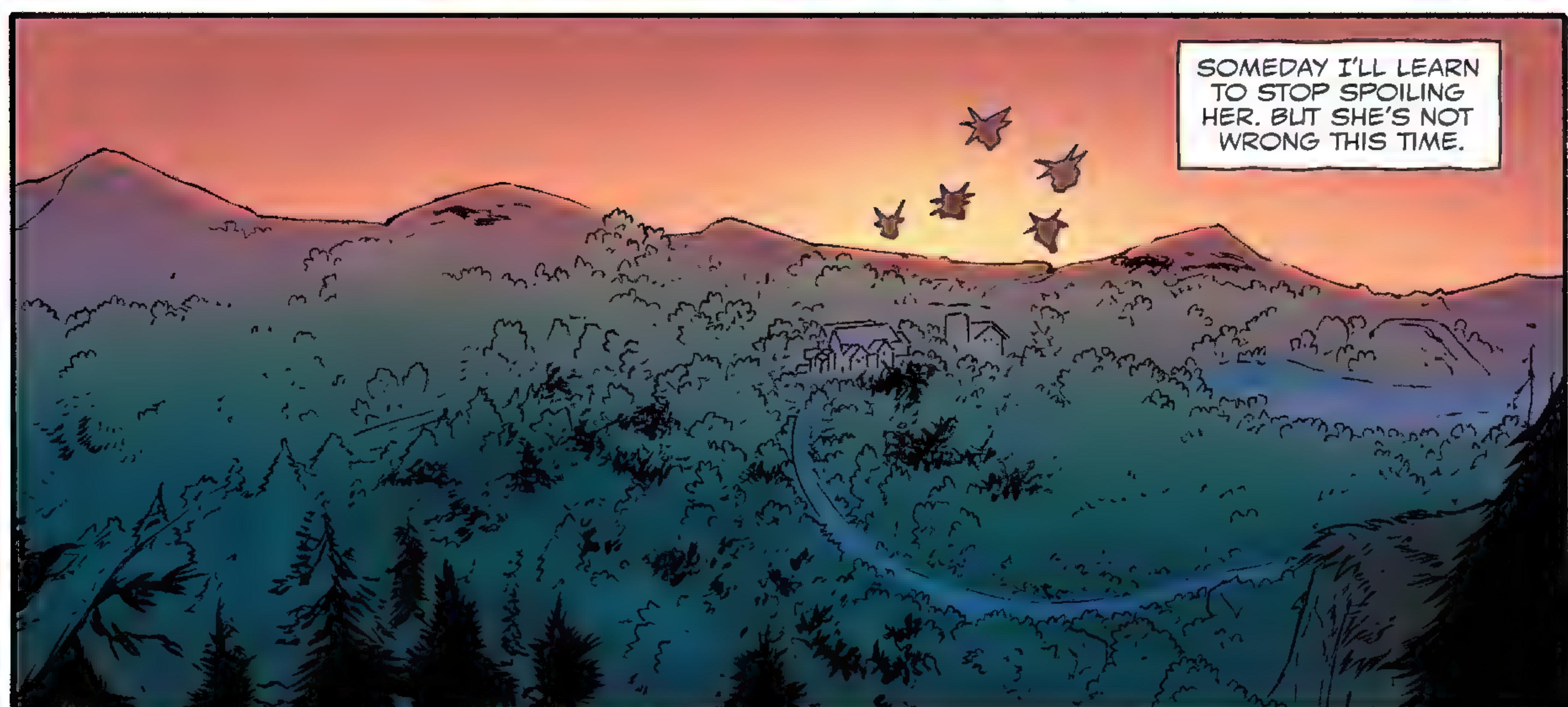
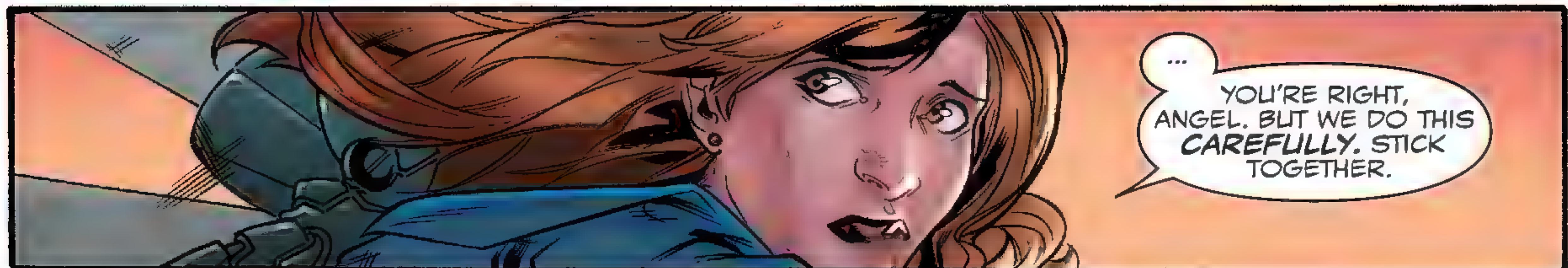
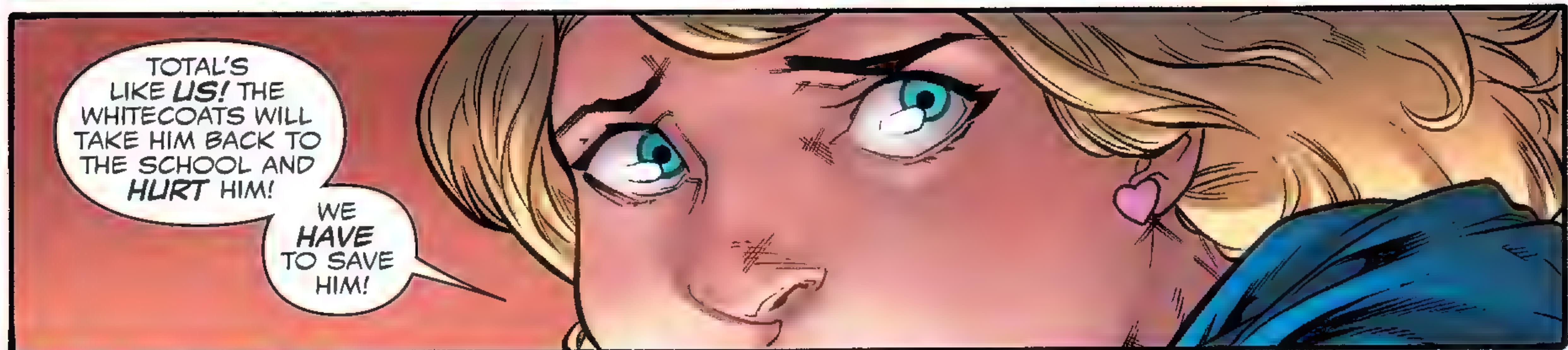
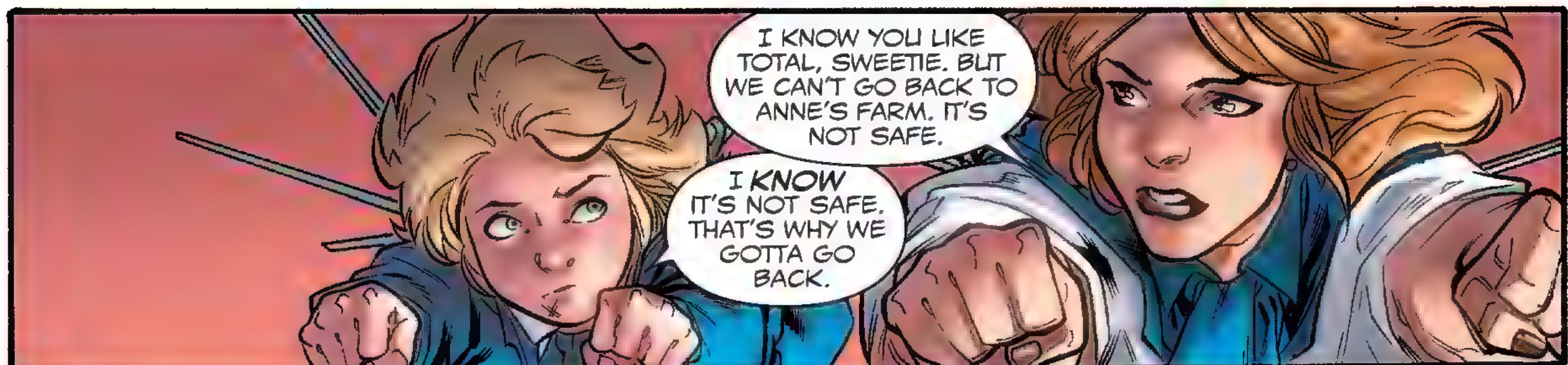
THUNK

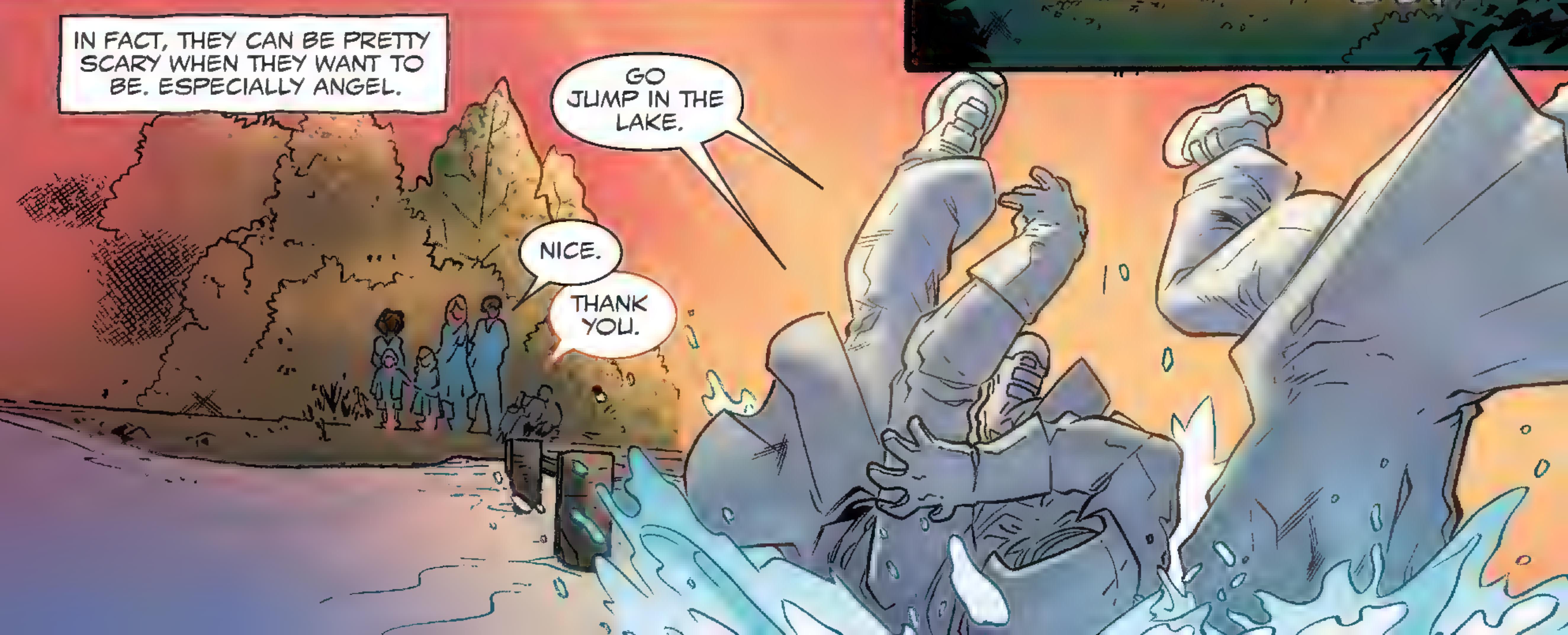
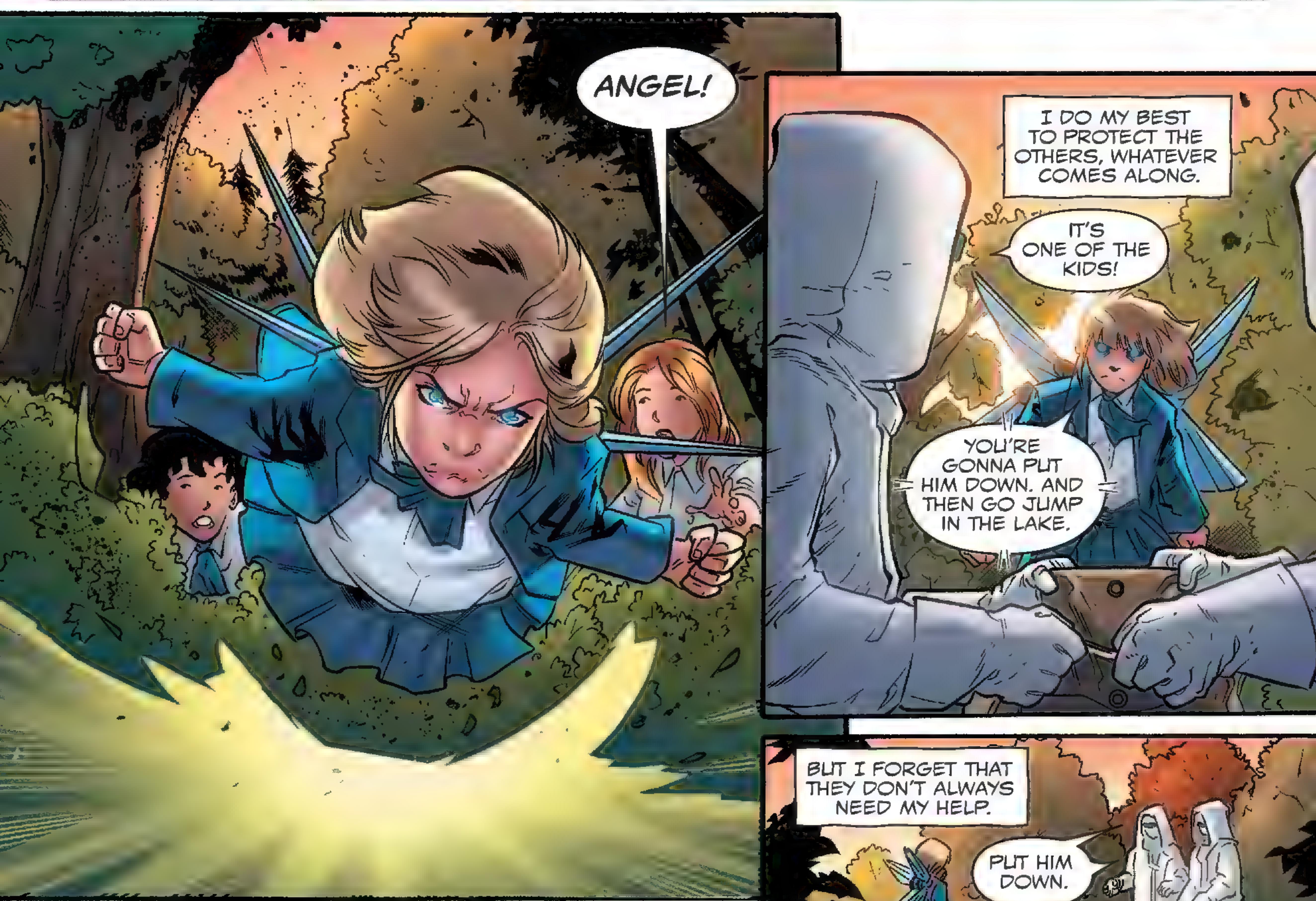


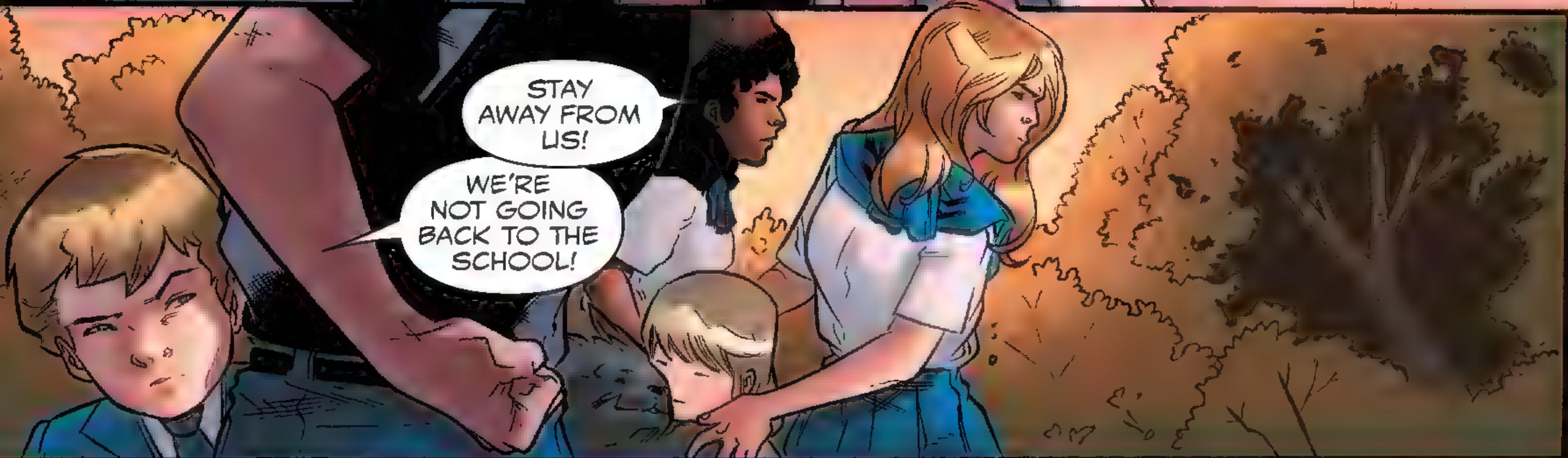


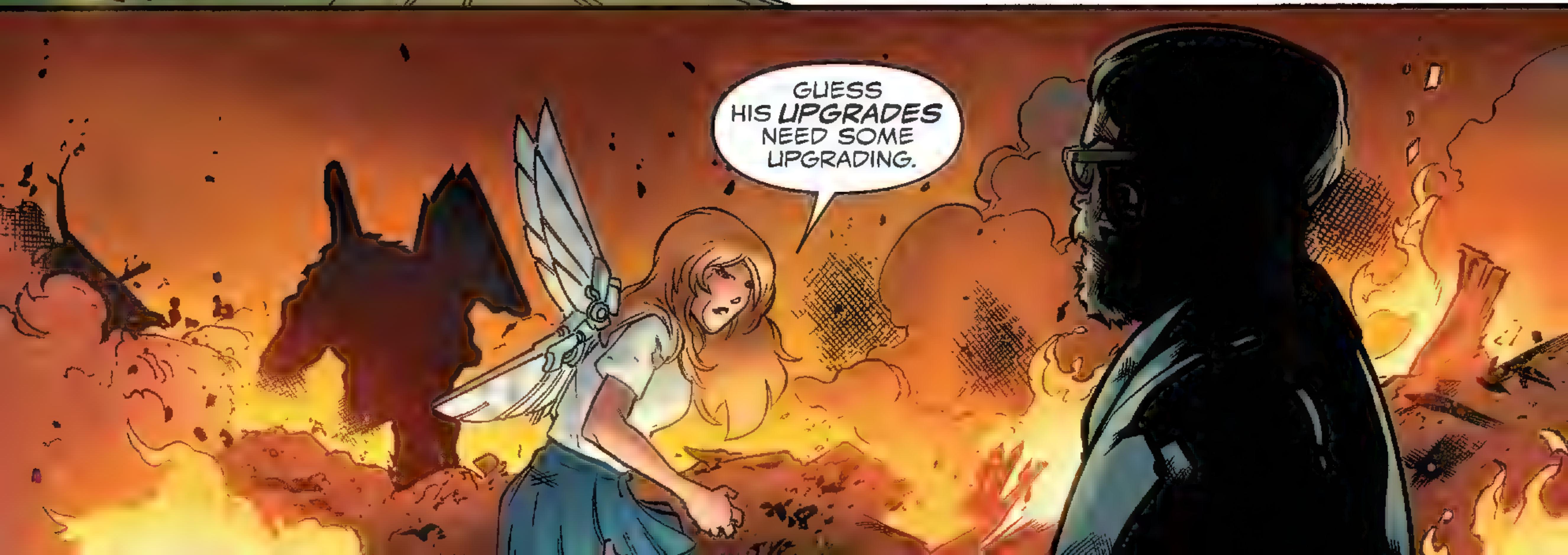
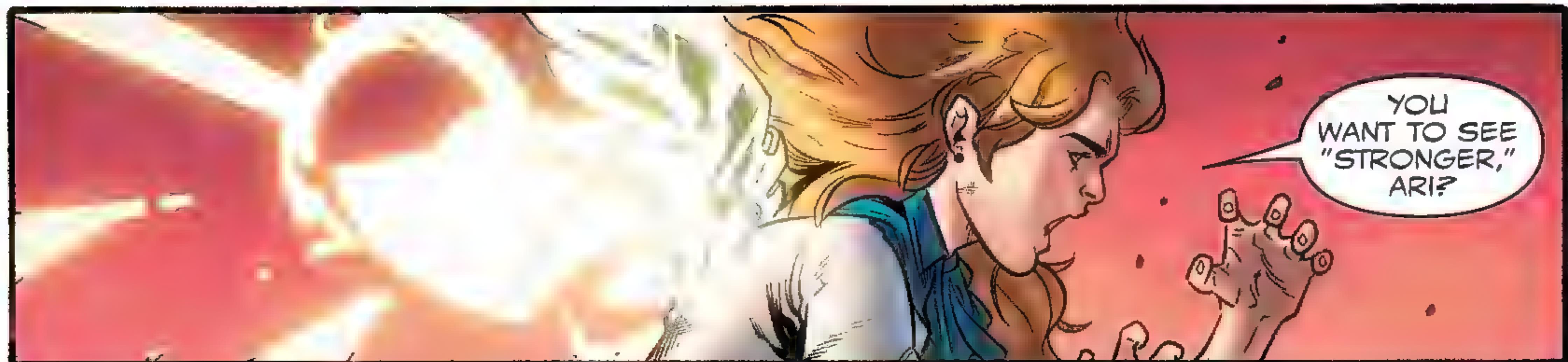


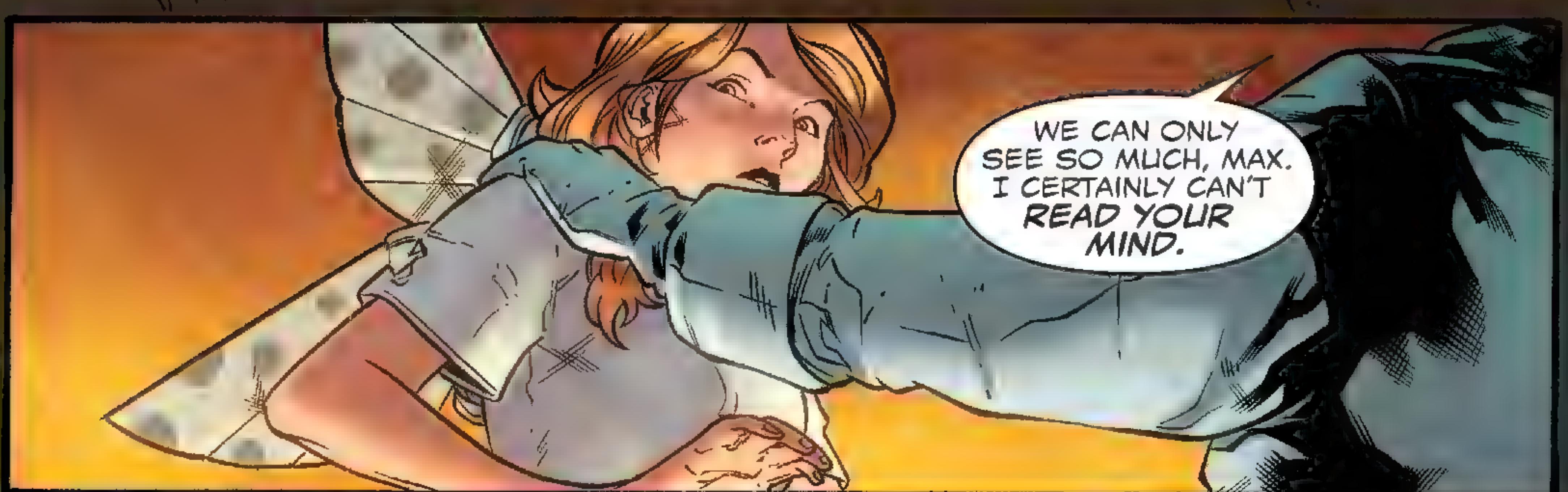
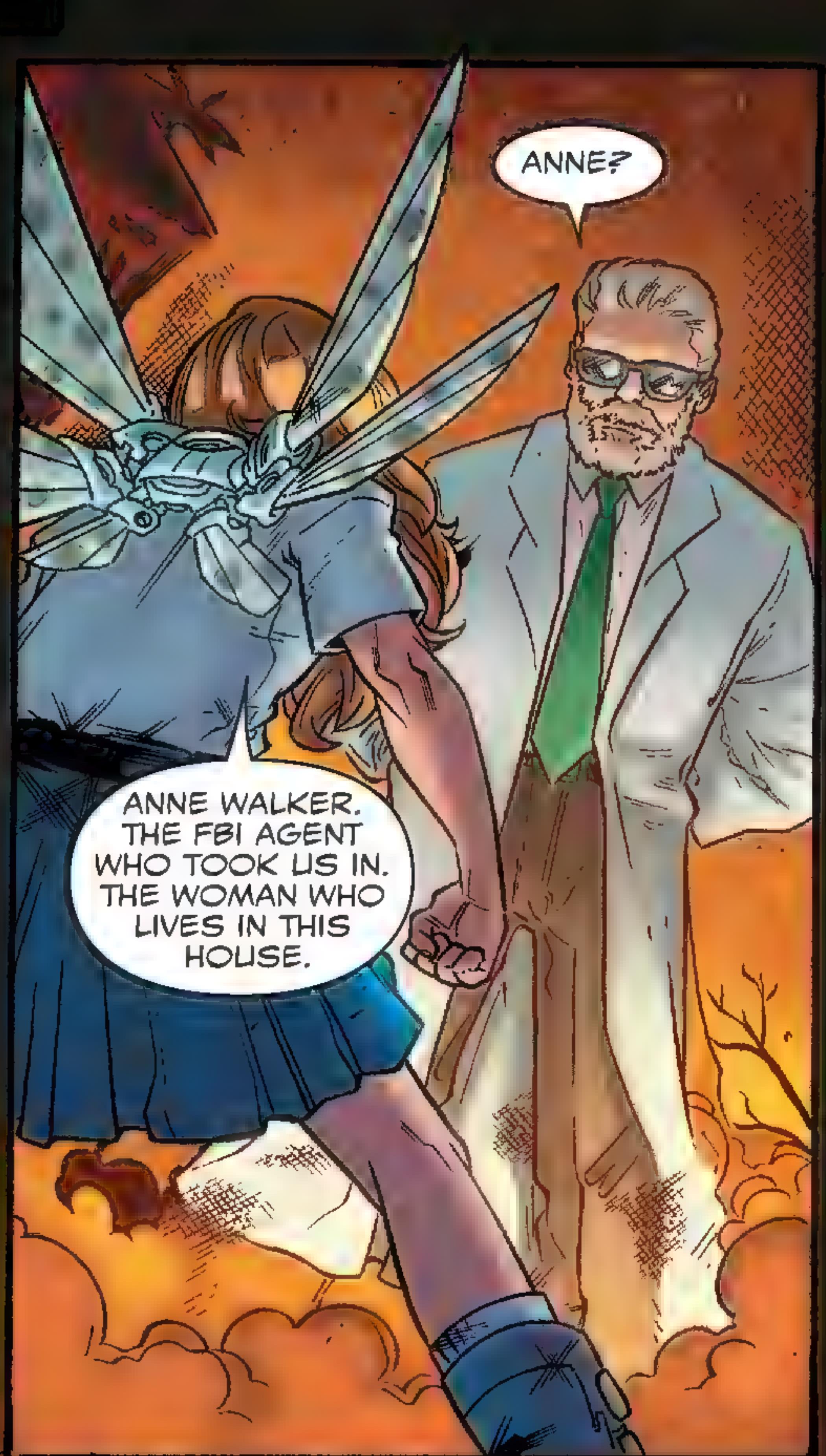
I HAVE TO
BELIEVE. HOW
CAN WE MOVE
FORWARD
IF I DON'T?

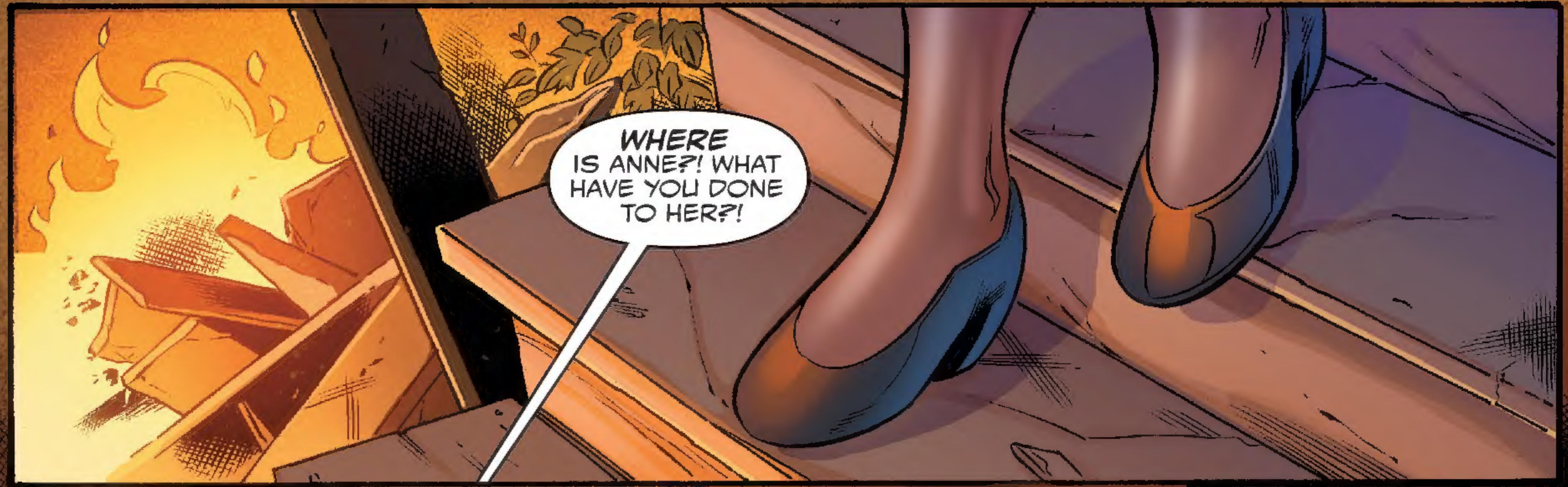
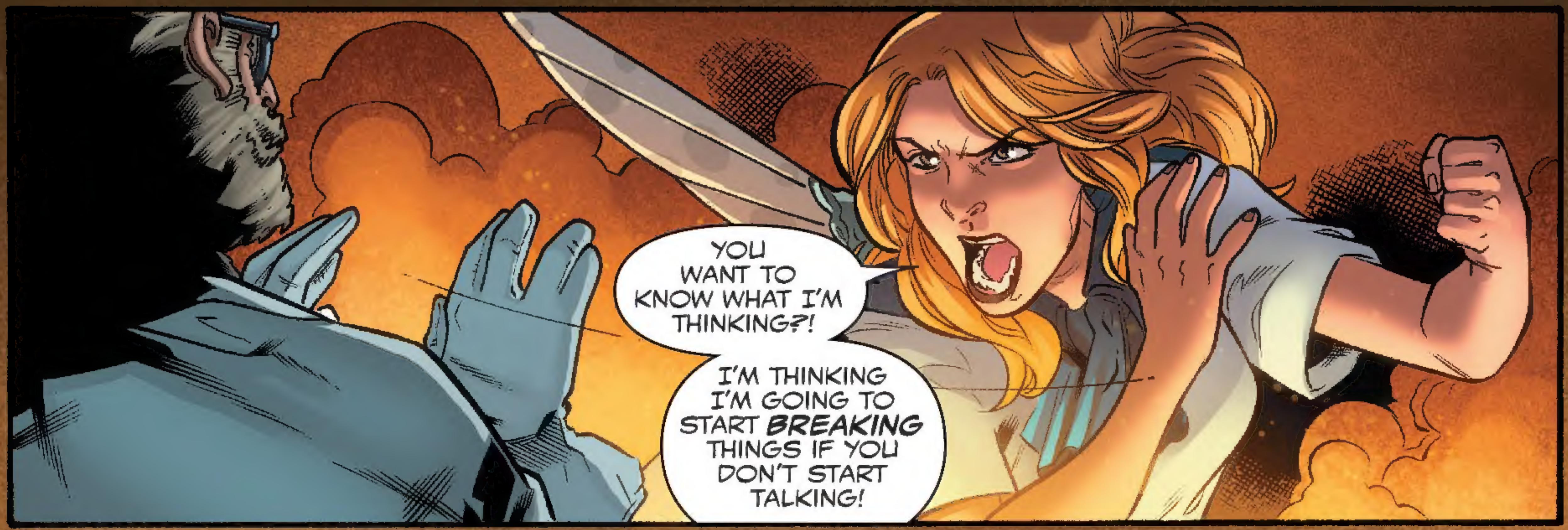












DON'T TRUST ANY GROWNUP WHO ACTS LIKE THEY CARE ABOUT YOU.

...JEB
WOULDN'T
DO ANYTHING
TO HURT HIS
BOSS.

TO BE CONTINUED...

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

NEXT:



